

EXPANSION AND THE WEST.

Butte Miner: Says The Billings Gazette in its latest issue: "Colonel Bryan was in accord with the sentiment of the people of the far west in his advocacy of free coinage, but is squarely against them in his opposition to national expansion. It will benefit the west vastly more than any other section of the country, and when the western people finally realize that free coinage is impracticable, Colonel Bryan will be a back number."

Now, the question is how The Gazette got in possession of the information to warrant the assertion that Colonel Bryan is squarely against the west in his opposition to national expansion. And another question, equally pertinent, is how it has ascertained that the people of the west are so strongly in favor of expansion. And still another is as to how expansion is going to benefit the west more than any other section.

The Miner's three questions can be answered in a single sentence; the people of the west are progressive. That is how this newspaper determined Colonel Bryan is against them in his anti-expansion views. As to the question, "how expansion is going to benefit the west," our Butte contemporary is certainly not serious in asking it. The immense trade of our new foreign possessions in the Pacific will all come to this country by way of our western coast where, in another decade, perhaps, will be built a city as great as New York; a city which will occupy the same relation to the Hawaiian and Philippine islands, to China and Japan, as New York now does to Europe. That will benefit the west, which the Miner, we think, will hardly care to deny.

Besides the natural development which the building of such a city on our western coast would afford this section of the country, it will become a manufacturing center before long by reason of this increased trade. How long, think you, will the people of the west sit idly by and see the manufactured articles required by our new possessions transported across the continent by rail to the Pacific coast? They will produce them themselves. The resources of the west, which have scarcely been drawn upon yet, are sure to undergo a marvelous development under this new impetus. New avenues of employment, besides mining, stock growing and farming, will be opened up for the western people; the population should increase tenfold in as many years. The old saying, "westward, progress takes its way," will be literally true.

The people are a progressive people, as I said before, and, while they have not yet had an opportunity to vote on the question of national expansion, they will be a back number in his opposition to national expansion. The Butte Miner, in his opposition to national expansion, kept full pace with progress, will be no more than a relic of a new era of development.

MERCHANT MARINE.

Frank Hanna of Ohio, who is the democratic press as a champion of statesmanlike author and champion of one of the important measures now before congress. It is a bill for the protection of the American merchant marine, which Mr. Hanna thinks should be passed at the present session. The majority of the senators, Mr. Hanna states, feel favorably toward the measure and he has reason to believe that the house of representatives will pass the bill. The bill introduced in the senate last week by Mr. Hanna, in fact, provides that subsidies shall be granted to certain freight-carrying vessels, built in America. The object of the bill is to encourage Americans in trans-acting business of a commercial character with the people of foreign nations.

The merchant marine interests of the United States should be protected as well as the steel industry," said Senator Hanna, who is exporting steel to Europe, and especially to Japan, because we have a large merchant marine. The protection of the American merchant marine is a matter of national importance, and we should not allow it to be sacrificed to the interests of a few foreign nations.

with the commerce carrying vessels of other countries of the world, but latterly we have been dropping behind, until at present only 6 per cent of the American freight is carried in American bottoms. The cause of this condition lies largely in the fact that England, Germany, France and other European countries have protected their maritime interests by granting the vessel companies subsidies. The only natural thing for us to do if we wish to build up our maritime interests is to do the same thing."

Those sentiments, we believe, will strike the average man as containing a very fair measure of statesmanship. It is deplorable, indeed, when our immense foreign trade is considered, to reflect that only 6 per cent of it is carried in American vessels. The United States is practically without a merchant marine and it cannot be built up, it seems, without government aid. The government, in the interest of the people, should extend that aid, especially when it is considered that the annual saving which a merchant marine of our own would effect to them is estimated by the most conservative at over \$150,000,000.

A FOOLISH STORY.

The Helena correspondent of the Anaconda Standard, in Sunday's issue, notes the arrival of Senator Carter in Montana's capital last Friday and then writes the following:

For a month rumors have been flying about the state that Carter was going to throw the fourteen republican votes to Clark, on the theory that it would disrupt and disorganize the democratic party and render certain his re-election in 1900. Carter is very emphatic in his denial of these imputations. He swears there is nothing in them. He says such a procedure would cover the republican party with disgrace and infamy, and that any republican who votes for Clark will be forever branded as a traitor and a boodler, and be politically and socially ostracized, just as the republicans have been who voted for Clark in 1893. The senator says Tom Marshall is the logical republican candidate for senator, and he hopes and expects and fully believes that the republican member will stand by Marshall, or some other good republican from first to last. That is what Carter says. And still the Clark people keep claiming several republican votes at the start and the whole bunch at the finish.

That is such a foolish story, we wonder that Senator Carter takes the pains to deny it. He is right, however, in predicting that any republican who votes for Clark will be everlastingly disgraced. The men who did that thing six years ago are still held in contempt by the people of Montana, of all parties. And, those men, when you recall who they were and remember that it was said they were paid many thousands dollars apiece for betraying their party, are all in straightened circumstances today. Which goes to prove the truth of the old saying that money obtained by dishonorable methods does not stay with a man. But dishonor stays with him and the disgraceful lesson taught six years ago in Helena through the shameful tactics of the Clark boodlers preying upon weak human natures ought to last Montana for a century.

It also ought to forever debar any man, democrat or republican, from voting for W. A. Clark for senator. It would be a disgrace to the state to elect him and give color to the belief in the east that our own beloved Montana, which has not a peer in the Union in any respect, is only a rotten borough, after all.

The problem of maintaining the \$100,000,000 gold reserve, which was such a bugaboo of the Cleveland administration, seems to have solved itself with the return of prosperity to the country. The reserve of gold in the treasury is now \$281,000,000, the highest point in the financial history of the government, and when gold is paid out by the sub-treasuries it quickly finds its way back to the treasury at Washington, the financiers preferring currency with which to transact business. This is hard on the theory of the free coinage advocates that there is not gold enough in the country, and it is no wonder that they are weakening and casting about for another "paramount" issue.

The board of stock commissioners recommends the repeal of the law giving a bounty on coyotes, and the raising of the bounty on wolves. The latter proposition is all right, of course, if the state can afford it, but the great sheep interests of this state demand that the bounty on coyotes be retained. The cattlemen, who urge that only the wolves destroy their herds, cannot expect the state to protect them and leave the flocks of sheepmen to the mercy of the coyotes. That would be rank class legislation and the legislature, we believe, will never even contemplate such action.

The Philipsburg Mail, published in the greatest silver camp in Montana, evidently realizes the hopelessness of free coinage, as well as the necessity for it, expressing itself on the subject as follows: "While Mr. Bryan still insists that silver will be an issue with his party in 1900, it is said that he has dropped the word 'paramount' since his recent visit to Washington. Mr. Cleveland, representing the gold standard democrats, appears to feel much encouraged over the outlook, and the overthrow of the silver cause in the democratic party is all but assured."

Grover Cleveland today stands a better chance to be president than Colonel W. J. Bryan, but from present indications no democrat can possibly have any hope of election before 1904. And by that time this country will be so large that the democrats will not have the hardihood to even attempt to govern it.

Yellowstone county's two representatives in the legislature, The Gazette was informed by a state senator recently, are both classed as Clark men. Can that be possible? If so, where was the trusted lieutenant of the Daly forces in Yellowstone when the democratic convention was held last fall?

The Gazette wishes all its readers and patrons a happy and prosperous New Year. Although the year just closed has been a prosperous one, we trust that the one just before us may be much more so and that all may reap richer harvests.

This democratic legislature may be bad enough to elect W. A. Clark to the United States senate, but we doubt it, although we confidently believe that it will not be so bad as to repeal the anti-gambling law.

I am fervent expansion, says Col. W. J. Bryan, yet the erstwhile colonel keeps expanding those mammoth lungs of his.

SAVARESY'S HEARING.

Is Bound Over to the District Court One Thousand Dollar Bonds.

A preliminary hearing of Frank Savarey, the south side saloonkeeper, charged with attempting to end the life of one Jack Coyne in Mike Reardon's saloon on Saturday night, Dec. 24, took place before Justice Fraser Saturday afternoon in the presence of a number of persons.

The examination was conducted by Jas. H. Johnston, deputy county attorney, while Savarey was defended by F. H. Hathhorn. No new developments were brought out during the examination; in fact the main witnesses of the shooting were conspicuously absent from some cause. At the time of the shooting and when taken into custody, Coyne, the wounded man, told Deputy Attorney Johnston and Jailer Hart that Savarey was the man who shot him, but on the witness stand stated that he was so drunk at the time that he could not tell who did the shooting and said he didn't know whether or not it was Savarey.

Mike Reardon, in whose place the shooting occurred and who was an eye-witness of the same, could not be located by the authorities when the preliminary was called and it was hinted that he had been urged to leave the city for the present and not testify against Savarey. Another witness, one Maxwell, who was also present at the time of the shooting, had mysteriously disappeared. But despite the absence of these witnesses, Justice Fraser, at the suggestion of the prosecuting attorney, bound Savarey over to the January term of district court in bonds of \$1,000, which were furnished by L. H. Fenske and A. J. Gilsdorf.

County Attorney Johnston is determined to ferret the case to the very bottom and if such a thing is possible will have the necessary witnesses present when the case is called up in the district court in about two weeks.

A GOOD WORD FOR BILLINGS.

Will Sutherland Says It in His Rocky Mountain Husbandman.

W. H. Sutherland, in his paper, the Rocky Mountain Husbandman, speaking of his trip home to White Sulphur Springs from Omaha, where he was superintendent of the Montana exhibit at the Omaha exposition, says:

"The Burlington trains seldom fail to make time and to catch up seventy to one hundred miles on the last few hours of its run is but fun. Billings on time is the usual way and here the Northern Pacific is boarded for the further trip west. It is pleasing to note that Billings is prospering. The merchants say that trade is good and the new buildings in course of erection is evidence that the people have faith in its future. And well they may, for the country surrounding is proving to be all that has ever been claimed of it as an agricultural region, though development as yet has scarcely reached to one-third the proportions it could and will sustain. Billings will be first to catch the large immigration that is coming Montana wards next year, and its thrifty appearance will no doubt attract many to cast their fortunes in the Yellowstone valley. From Billings east and west the Northern Pacific railroad is maintaining its usual good service, running heavy trains and crowded cars."

NEW COUNTY OFFICERS.

Were Inducted Into Office Yesterday With Exception of County Treasurer.

Yesterday was a legal holiday for New Years, which fell on Sunday, still it was the time set by the attorney general for the new county officers to take their seats, provided their predecessors were present to turn over the offices. Attorney General Nolan made a ruling along these lines, so the change of county offices was to be made on Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 2 and 3.

The new officers of Yellowstone county took their seats yesterday, with the exception of county treasurer, who does not go into office until about March 5. This is a ruling made in order to permit the county treasurer to sell property for delinquent taxes and close up his books. This gives County Treasurer George a new lease on life. Sheriff Berky balanced up his books Saturday night and yesterday turned over the same and his official keys to Geo. W. Hubbard, his successor. Under Sheriff Newman is succeeded by J. T. Sayles of Park City, while Jailer Hart turns over his keys to C. W. Harding of Musselshell.

Nat G. Carville succeeds S. F. Morse as county clerk and recorder, and having been the latter's deputy, the work will be "allice samee" to Mr. Carville. The new incumbent has made the best official Yellowstone county has ever had and has few equals as a bookkeeper and accountant. He is courteous and agreeable and although he differs politically from this paper, it is no breach of policy when we say that he will no doubt be prominently mentioned for state auditor two years hence. Mr. Carville has selected as his deputy Will H. Morse, one of the most popular young men of our city, and who is possessed of splendid business ability. They will make a team hard to beat.

County Attorney W. M. Johnston, who has ably filled that position for the past two years, succeeds himself and will continue to be a terror to criminals. No man has filled the office of county superintendent better than Gwen F. Burla and it is a satisfaction to know that under his supervision the schools of the county have advanced nicely. Mr. Burla succeeds himself and if the past is any criterion the coming two years will mean much for the county schools.

Geo. T. Lamport will continue for two years to survey the county roads, having succeeded himself.

Richard C. Wells, by a vote of the people, has assumed the role of county assessor, succeeding Elmer Summers, and that the new official will be an eye-sore to tax-dodgers goes without saying.

In the justice courts, A. Fraser and James Kelly succeeded themselves and will, as in the past, dispense justice to criminals brought before them.

Chas. Spear has been inducted into office as public administrator. Mr. Spear needs no introduction to our people and all know that money left in estates will be in safe and economic hands.

Vigo Lieberg, who was duly elected coroner, failed to qualify and the commissioners appointed Dr. E. P. Townsend, who has served in that capacity for sometime past, to fill the vacancy.

Hon. Oscar Gruwel and Hon. John D. Losekamp, who succeed Hon. A. L. Babcock and Hon. T. C. Armitage as state senator and representative, respectively, have gone to Helena and entered upon their legislative duties.

A LITTLE PREVIOUS.

A Correspondent of a Gebo Paper Marries Two People in Advance.

Red Lodge Picket: The Red Lodge correspondent of the Gebo paper, having united A. M. Peters of Billings in marriage with Mrs. Jessie Thoburn of this city, without the knowledge or consent of the parties, it will be in order for the said correspondent to make the "amende horrible" by instituting divorce proceedings in the next issue of the Gebo Conclusion Jumper. That reliable publication says the couple were "united in marriage Sunday, the 18th inst., by W. H. Watson," but in view of the fact that the ceremony hasn't yet been performed it may be as well to again adjure the Gebo paper that it were better to know a little than so blamed much that isn't so.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

At the Grand.

Friday, Dec. 30.—N. R. Wessel, D. Valentine, Helena; C. P. Holmes, Minneapolis; W. H. Strader, St. Paul; John Hennice, Junction; M. L. O'Brien, Glendive; C. S. Haire, Helena; W. L. G. Unger, Laurel.

Saturday, Dec. 31.—J. E. Miller, Springfield; H. C. Nutt, W. T. Metz, Sheridan; H. L. Miller, Glendive; J. W. Gardner, Laurel; G. D. Ball, Dickinson; Wm. Foerschler, Butte.

Sunday, Jan. 1.—Tom Smith, Chicago; G. G. Stockwell, Sheridan; F. C. Woodward, Joliet; Mike Elmore, Carbon; Roy G. Butler, Butte; H. H. Ross, Helena; A. Stanton, London; John Rapelje, Glendive.

Monday, Jan. 2.—R. Kirk, city; John D. Halliday, Galveston; Pat Lavelle, J. B. Annin, Columbus; H. S. Withington, F. Hanna and wife, Junction; Theo. L. Ringwalt, Gebo; F. F. Arnold, U. S. A.; Fort Yellowstone; C. Emmerick, Glendive; Chas. R. Schlappi, Montana; M. L. O'Brien, Glendive.

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