

The Billings Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

E. L. BOARDMAN, Editor and Publisher.

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FOR REPUBLICAN UNITY.

It is time for the local republicans, if they hope to again place the party in the ascendancy in this republican county, to begin to think and talk of unity of action and formulate plans for the campaign that will open in the spring by the election of delegates to the national convention.

Unfortunately, in 1896, a division was created in the party by the silver issue, which not only resulted in republican defeat, but engendered animosities that were carried into the campaign last year, with a like result.

To begin with, all the republicans are now of one mind as far as the principles of the party are concerned; that is one important point that has been gained. The members who were carried from their moorings in '96 by the silver issue are now agreed that free coinage is not essential to the prosperity of the country; 90 per cent of them, in fact, reached that conclusion last year, returned to the party, standing squarely on the St. Louis platform, battled loyally for the whole ticket and will again be in line for success in the next campaign.

The Gazette cannot follow its St. Louis platform allies on that proposition; there never will be unity of action on that basis, and the question to decide is whether the party shall be kept in the minority in a county where it has a safe working majority.

That is the spirit that must prevail in this county to get the republicans together. It is the sentiment of a large majority of the republicans and they will be able, we trust, to convince the few radicals of their error before it again jeopardizes party success.

Ex-Senator Allen of Nebraska has been appointed by Governor Poynter to succeed United States Senator Hayward, whose death occurred last week before he had taken the oath of office.

Before it is too late they should remember the words of Colonel Sanders at the state convention last year—that it makes no difference what a man has been in the past; the question is, is he a republican today.

IT FEELS BETTER.

Our esteemed contemporary, the Billings Times, now feels better about the letting of the county printing contract, and says it "was farthest from our intention to censure the commissioners." Very good, indeed; The Gazette only took up the matter because the Times threatened dire vengeance against them, but since the threat "don't go," we breathe easier, while the commissioners will no doubt thank the Times for according them permission to live.

However, as long as the commissioners acted just as the editor of the Times would have done had he been in their place, we presume that everything is lovely with our contemporary; either that, or its editor must stultify himself in criticizing their action. But we are gratified to learn that our contemporary feels better. On mature reflection it has no doubt concluded that the commissioners rendered it a distinct service by not awarding it the contract at its starvation figures, which The Gazette has already pointed out.

NOT THIS NEWSPAPER.

Yesterday's Helena Independent credits The Gazette with having published a letter from Hon. Henry Knippenberg, the substance of which is that "the backsliders of 1896 (the silver republicans) will be put on probation in 1900, and only those who have been faithful in dire times will be rewarded by the republican party next year."

The Gazette has never published a letter from Mr. Knippenberg and, while it highly esteems that gentleman's republicanism, this newspaper must take issue with him if he argues that anyone shall be taken into the republican party on probation. The party wants recruits in order that its principles may triumph and be put into force and effect, and the only way it can gain them is by receiving into good fellowship every man who subscribes to the republican platform.

And the Helena Independent, if it is honest, will give the same prominence to correcting the impression that The Gazette is in favor of proscribing silver republicans, as it did to the charge.

The Billings Times is getting into the political swim with a vengeance, one little item in yesterday's issue making State Senator Campbell of Park county, both lieutenant governor and governor of this state, and then squarely landing him in the United States senate. And Senator Campbell is a Daily democrat, at that, but it is actually believed that the Times, had it known him a day or two longer, could have carried the gentleman into the white house itself.

Ex-Senator Allen of Nebraska has been appointed by Governor Poynter to succeed United States Senator Hayward, whose death occurred last week before he had taken the oath of office. This fact has raised the question as to whether the governor had the right to appoint a senator, but that is a small matter compared to the snub administered to Editor Hitchcock of the Omaha

World-Herald, Mr. Bryan's personal organ. It is practically the only democratic paper of any force in Nebraska and Editor Hitchcock, who has squandered a large fortune to keep the paper up, was an active candidate for the senatorial vacancy. He is a gentleman of marked ability, too, is the most efficient democratic worker in his state and from every consideration was entitled to recognition. Bryan no doubt dictated Allen's appointment, but it is base ingratitude to Editor Hitchcock and may dampen his ardor for the free silver frank in the next campaign.

State Senator James T. Anderson of Meagher county died suddenly at his home in White Sulphur Springs last Tuesday of appendicitis. He was one of the prominent democrats of the state, an honest man and it is said refused \$25,000 last winter for his vote for United States senator. Neither the democrats nor republicans of this state can afford to lose men of that character; they should be spared for the good they can accomplish toward purifying politics.

The very latest from Washington is that the senatorial investigating committee looking into the bribery charges against Senator Clark, will visit Montana and probe the political situation in this state to the very bottom. Very good, but we warn the members of the committee that the democratic stench in this state is awful, and that they had better have their olfactory organs lined, although it is not absolutely necessary that they should be copper-lined.

Aguineldo, disguised and afoot, is a fugitive in the mountains of the Philippines, but, somehow or other, the democrats will get word to him that he must keep up the war in order to furnish them an issue for the next campaign.

Telephone Stock for Sale. At a meeting Saturday, Nov. 18, of the directors of the Billings & Musselshell Telephone company, it was decided to sell stock enough to the highest bidder to liquidate the indebtedness of the company, amounting to \$850. Bids will be received at the office of the company up to Dec. 30, 1899.

L. L. Moffett, President and Manager. Christian Yegen, Secretary. 61-9

ST. JOHN'S COUGH CURE Will Cure Your Cough. Sold by CHAPPELLE DRUG CO.

PERSONAL POINTS.

A. B. LaMott of Roundup is in the city today.

Geo. Sonle and wife arrived home Wednesday night from a visit to Iowa. Jaffis Lehrkind, proprietor of the Bozeman brewery, was here on business yesterday.

D. G. O'Shea, cashier of the Rocky Fork Coal company, was in the city Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Fields left Wednesday night for southern California to spend the winter.

H. N. Kennedy was a Helena visitor yesterday, assisting in the Mystic Shriners' jubilee last night.

J. R. Painter, the mine operator from Sunlight, Wyo., was in the city today on his way to his mine properties from a visit to Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Lucy Miller, mother of Mrs. C. E. Rector, deceased, leaves tomorrow for Boulder, Col., to make her future home with a daughter.

W. A. Clark, Jr., of Butte, a son of United States Senator W. A. Clark, was in the city Tuesday night, coming down from a trip to Bridger.

Geo. P. Dier, the traveling man, who is also engaged in business in both Big Timber and Bozeman, was in the city Wednesday taking wholesale orders from our merchants.

J. C. McCarthy of Chestnut, the mine operator interested in the Clarke Fork Coal company at Gebo, stopped in the city Tuesday night while on his way home from a visit to Gebo.

Karl Simmons, the Northern Pacific land agent for Montana, came in Wednesday from the Musselshell where he sold several thousand acres of railroad land to the Ryan Bros. Cattle company.

Lincoln Journal: J. H. Bigger, for many years a business man of Lincoln, at present located at Billings, Mont., with Mrs. Bigger, is visiting at the home of the latter's parents, Capt. and Mrs. J. E. Hill.

Mrs. L. O. Green of Holdrege, Neb., a sister of C. E. Rector, arrived in the city the first of the week. Mrs. Green will return home Saturday, taking with her the infant boy of Mr. Rector, whose mother died ten days ago.

Thos. W. Humphrey and Dr. J. H. Kuehnt left yesterday for Helena, where they walked the burning sands of the desert as proscribed by the Mystic Order of Shriners last night. They will return home tomorrow.

W. B. Cooper, formerly a resident of Billings, but who has been conducting a photograph gallery in Big Timber for the past two years, was shaking hands with friends in this city Wednesday. Mr. Cooper has disposed of his business and accepted a position with the Northern Pacific bridge gang. He noted many changes in Billings, saying that it has greatly improved in buildings and residences since he lived here.

Sweet Perfumes For Holiday Gifts.

Our Line is one of the Most Complete in the City. Among the many different kinds are:

- Crown Perfume Co., Regan & Gallat, Ed. Pinaud, Theo. Ricknecker, French & Cave, Frederick Stearns & Co., Lazell's, Swinton's, Eastman's, C. Laux & Co., Paul Reigers, Vennod & Co.

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GREAT REDUCTION SALE FOR THE HOLIDAYS. T. W. HUMPHREY'S. YOUR CHRISTMAS SELECTIONS. Everything in the Diamond Line, Beautiful Watches and Clocks, Cut Glassware, Sterling Silver Tea Sets, Silverware and Sterling Silver.

ARE YOU GOING? Buy Your Meat. ANDY GILSDORF'S South Side Market. Fresh and Salt Meats, Game and Vegetables. THE SIDEBBOARD ROBERT L. NIX, Prop. Mixed Drinks, Fine Liquors and Cigars.