

THE COLORED CITIZEN.

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COLORED CITIZEN PUB. CO.,

Per J. P. Ball, Jr.,

Editor and Manager.

The COLORED CITIZEN, a paper devoted to the social, moral and industrial interests of the colored American of this state, is a new venture. It is an enterprise that should receive such hearty support from all classes irrespective of race, politics or creed that its assured success should be guaranteed from the outset. It cannot be denied that our people, through force of circumstance, occupy a peculiar status in this country. We are not thoroughly known. Our better qualities are not presented fairly to the public. Our infirmities and shortcomings are constantly magnified and dwelt upon, while our better attributes remain unrepresented. Is it strange, then, that our people should endeavor to secure a mouthpiece—a newspaper—whereby to educate the public to a full appreciation of our worth, that we may be judged impartially and not have imposed upon us as a people harsh criticisms that should rest upon individuals only? The state of Montana has just right to feel proud of its twenty-five hundred colored citizens found in every county of this fair and prosperous commonwealth. They are to a man wealth-producers. They are of the brawn that have unfettered and exposed to the sunshine of our unsurpassed climate the treasured wealth of ages—they are of the men who made known and demonstrated to the outside world the possibilities of this vast empire pregnant with unlimited resources—they are of the men who will ere long come here by thousands to help develop the wonderful industries lying dormant in this state. They are of the men who will in future, arm in arm with capital in unison and harmony and free from bickerings, discord and unrest, develop and make bloom as the rose the entire expanse of this God-favored land of promise and plenty. Our people are sympathetic, sensitive and tractable and hence are a desirable accession in all well-disposed communities. Because of the cordial relations existing between all classes populating this state and the colored citizens thereof, they are exceptionally prosperous, happy and contented, which probably accounts for the constantly increasing population of color who, with rare exceptions, are very worthy additions to the community. We bespeak for our people a bright future. Slowly but surely their sterling qualities are becoming known, and ere long the ban of prejudice which overhangs them like a pall will be dispelled by the light of favorable public opinion, and then will the future blossom and ripen into fruit that will only await our efforts. Hedged in on all sides by adverse circumstances our people are bound to evolve into usefulness and greatness. Barriers must be surmounted and public sentiment won over in our behalf. We ask the aid and co-operation of our fellow citizens in behalf of our people and of this enterprise. Just in proportion to the aid received will results be obtained. We launch this venture with no enemies to punish but very, very many kind friends to favor.

It matters not to the average citizen whether the tariff bill became law with or without the president's signature. What is wanted is a cessation of tariff tinkering so the business interests of the country may revive. Republicans are feeling very comfortable. Sec? Congress adjourned on Tuesday. Thanks.

A VIGOROUS CAMPAIGN.

Popular Tide Fast Flowing Helensward Under the Able Management of the Capital Committee.

A great deal of quiet and effective work in the interest of Helena for the permanent capital has been systematically and thoroughly prosecuted in every section of the state during the past few weeks by our able capital committee, the presiding genius of which is that thorough and energetic organizer Hon. J. P. Woolman, ably assisted by the ubiquitous Hon. Wm. Muth, its genial and affable secretary. Every member of the committee is enthusiastic in the endeavor to conduct an active, vigorous and winning fight, hence the steady and growing popular tide in favor of Helena. Having conducted a very successful still-hunt campaign—a campaign of cold and incontrovertible facts in favor of Helena—a campaign of education—the committee are now turning their attention to the popular and effective excursion mode of campaign. The recent invasions of the capital city by thousands of delighted guests who, after enjoying the royal hospitality of our genial citizens, returned home with none but words of praise of the kind treatment received from our citizens and of the superior claims of our city over all others in the state for the permanent capital, can but result in untold good, and will surely do much towards scattering broadcast throughout the state the fair fame of Helena and her claim on the votes of all thinking men for the permanent capital. Keep up the good work, gentlemen of the committee, and on the 8th of November your splendid efforts will be rewarded with an overwhelming victory for our beloved city.

SUNSHINE AND SHADOW.

Before us lie some interesting memoranda, at least to us. The sunshine and shadow of our efforts to start this paper are therein unfolded. What a variety of types compose the human family! They differ in size—(no reference to avoidupols). They differ in temperament, self-importance and general contour. Some have received us with a hearty handshake, encouraging words, valuable advice and substantial aid. Others turned loose on us a cold shower bath as soon as we were ushered into their frigid presence. Not a few listened to us as we unfolded our plans with a bored air, a cynical smile and a please-go-quick expression. Some couldn't see what need the colored people had for a paper. A few, just a very few, thought it was the worst thing possible to have a colored paper, as it might have a tendency to cause "our colored brethren" to draw the color line, which, of course, would be un-American. Some friends when seeing us coming, would have some important business just across the street and we would lose track of them. Oftimes when trying to whistle up courage or catch our breath, up would come some whole-souled "vir" with a twinkle in the eye, a hearty grasp of the hand, a kind word for the paper and a "come and see me again if necessary." We shall ever feel grateful to kind friends who have given this venture encouragement, advice and aid, and we take this means of publicly thanking them. We know there are many friends who have not had the opportunity of extending a helping hand because of our inability to see them. We trust that no umbrage will be taken on that account. To square ourselves before such, as well as all others who may desire to make this enterprise a success, we kindly invite every well-wisher of the COLORED CITIZEN to either call, write or send for us. By the co-operation of the general public we hope to make this a useful, live readable paper that will reflect credit upon the people it represents, the city of Helena and the state at large.

POLITICAL RECOGNITION.

We note with pleasure that the republicans at the recent city primaries elected four delegates and five alternate delegates from our colored citizens, who shall represent the interests of the three hundred colored voters of this city in the coming county convention. This is a step in the right direction and should only be the entering wedge to a fuller and more just representation in the future. It has been a mistaken policy of the several political parties to ignore the colored voters. The republican prophets in making forecasts have very generally put the colored vote down in the "certain republican" column. Recent experience should teach them that the colored vote is fast becoming an unknown factor in politics. He can no longer be held in line by the "gratitude" plea, it has become stale and threadbare. The average colored voter of to-day is as thorough practical and sagacious as the white voter. The latter drifts politically hither and

thither. Is it strange that the former is commencing to take the cue and do like wise? Gentlemen of the republican party, of which we are proudly a member, allow your attention to be called to the necessity of courting and properly treating the colored vote just as considerably as are other integral factors of the party of progress and reform. Perhaps we may ruffle the feelings and serenity of some of our republican leaders because we are so outspoken in demanding just consideration and proper treatment for the colored voter. But don't chafe and lose your temper, gentlemen, for it is better that you should be rudely disturbed, even by us, in your erroneously supposed mortgage or ownership of the colored vote, than to have the party suffer through your oversight, overconfidence and lack of humane political sagacity. The up-to-date leaders in politics are those who can and do read the signs and steer the ship of state accordingly. The political horizon is aglow with an urgent demand for justice, fair treatment and political recognition of the colored Americans of this country. THE COLORED CITIZEN is with the party if progress but is not afraid to bring some of the leaders to task when it thinks the party will be jeopardized by holding its peace.

HON. T. C. POWER HOME.

Senator Power has received a hearty welcome by his hosts of friends from all parts of the State, who were pleased to grasp his hand and congratulate him on his excellent appearance, notwithstanding his arduous duties, incident to a long, active and tiresome session of Congress. The senator is always on the alert to subserve the interests of our state, hence it is that though single-handed and alone he has carefully guarded and protected the many and diversified interests that have arisen affecting the welfare of the people of Montana.

NOMINATE ONLY THE BEST LEGISLATIVE MATERIAL.

A Solid Republican Delegation Can be Elected. Rule all Scrubs OFF the Track.

On general principles political slate making is objectionable, but sometimes it becomes necessary and expedient. It is a matter of record that the Republicans of this county in recent years have for cause been unable to elect a solid legislative delegation.

It is high time that the leaders should get together and remove this cause. It is useless to presume upon the loyalty of the Republicans of this county. They will enthusiastically support and elect good legislative nominees but they will weed out and knife names that fall below the high standard demanded. Therefore we advocate slate making when it comes to legislative nominees. We take it for granted that there will be at least two senatorial factions in our coming county convention. Let each faction select for presentation to the convention the necessary names—able men of experience in matters of state; incorruptible; strong individually; strong collectively—this done let all others be barred. Do away with the free for all scrub entries. Demand that only first class material and none other shall be presented for entry. This arranged there can be no chance for scrubs to rush by in the general confusion and enthusiasm that sometimes warp the cooler and sounder judgment of men huddled in convention. As to which faction shall have the majority on the floor of the convention cuts no figure as to the pith of this article nor to the mass of the people, we opine. No matter which way the current shall flow the majority would nominate an invulnerable ticket. To this extent we advocate slate making and it is hoped that it will be acquiesced in and that the result will be so satisfactory that public opinion will endorse its propriety and advisability at least when applied to nominees for the legislature.

WHY WE WANT A PAPER.

It has been asked why do we wish to draw the color line and issue a paper devoted to the interests of the colored citizen? The question answers itself. Why do the Germans, Scandinavians and other nationalities have their own organs? So it is with the Afro-American, he can be reached and convinced quicker and better through a paper of his own. Every people have modes peculiar to themselves and the Afro-American is not an exception to the rule. Then we have a race pride that has clung to us from generation to generation, that time can not eliminate.

The political pot should be skimmed. So much harmony is un-American for these parts. There are about 500 colored people in this city.

THE COLORED CITIZEN.

"To the manor born, always thoroughly American, patriotic, industrious and reliable, the colored citizen deserves favorable public opinion." Be it said to the shame of a large majority of the people of this country that there is a strong disposition to "count out" the colored citizen. As long as he confines himself to the groove of a menial disposition remains quiescent; by general consent it is agreed that this narrow sphere should circumscribe his aspiration. If perchance he seeks the trades or professions for a livelihood, immediately his color arouses the antagonism of the masses. True it is that there are laudable exceptions to this skin-color prejudice epidemic, but the malady is so deep seated in the rank and file that we meet from day to day and who delight to flaunt in our faces their race rancor that we are forced to the conviction that the latter reflect the general unfavorable public opinion prevailing against us as a people. This is not as it should be. Point out, if you can, a single integral factor of the body politic of this country so thoroughly American as our colored citizen. He knows no home save his America. He fondly loves this country for he knows of none else. He has borne arms for the independence of his country and for the preservation of our Union. He has contributed by his unceasing industry to the upbuilding and establishment of the most prosperous country on the face of the earth. He has ever been a producer—he is of the bone and sinew of the country. Added to these excellent essentials he can always be counted upon the side of law and order. Anarchy and communism find no abiding place in his patriotic heart. He spends not the midnight hour loading dynamite bombs to destroy the property of his fellow citizen. He is not found in secret conclaves conspiring to overturn and destroy the institutions of his country. He does not ally himself to marauding hordes who delight to levy tribute upon the industrious citizen through whose country they rove. He does not spend his time sawing the air in a vain endeavor to proscribe some sensible citizen to impracticable political dogmas. To the contrary, he fills the bill of the ideal American citizen. Why then exists, or is permitted, the ever-present, never-ceasing, all-pervading prejudice against the colored citizen that is a disgrace and blight to the fair name of this country. Down with it. It should be declared un-American. The abuse must be corrected. Public sentiment and opinion must frown it down. The initiative to accomplish this must be taken by the better class of people. Their example will soon be followed by the rank and file, and soon there will be none in this fair country so unmanly as to vent his prejudice against the colored citizen on account of his race, color or previous condition. Let good citizens take the matter in hand all once all over the country and wipe out with one fell swoop this national race prejudice against the colored citizen.

"THE PRINCIPLE IS THERE."

Only the Core Left.

The new tariff bill has become a law by the failure of the President to veto it. And now the magnates of the Democratic party are condoling with themselves and the disgusted public. After sifting the matter and analyzing the results Mr. Wilson, who as the unwilling sponsor of the abortion, probably knows more about the almost unrecognizable corpse than anyone else among the Democratic jury of inquest now seeking to establish the identity of the shapeless affair, after careful examination, repeated verifications and much mental effort has finally consented to make public as the result of his researches concerning the status of what was once known as the "Wilson" bill that "the principle is there." That is, that the care is intact, or partly so, and that the balance has been nibbled away a la monkey and cat style.

TO OUR MERCHANTS AND BUSINESS MEN.

Owing to the press of business incident to getting out our first issue we have been unable to make the rounds of our merchants and business men to solicit advertisements. We rest assured, however, that when the rounds are made that a goodly number of ads. will be secured. This paper will start with a circulation of about 750 in this city. It will be placed in the hands of every colored family in Helena. It will also reach the homes and offices of over 400 of our best white fellow-citizens. Our circulation in the surrounding cities and towns will be fully 500 each week. Therefore our business community should respond with alacrity, if only for a small card, in aiding us to conduct a live, energetic and readable paper devoted heart and soul in the interest of Helena for the capital.

AN ANALYSIS OF CANDIDATES.

An analysis of those who are offering themselves as sacrifices on the political altar leads us to the conclusion that they are composed of several distinct types though all have an eye single to the same goal. The candidates who profess to believe and strenuously endeavor to impress upon enforced auditors that they are especially made to order for the place sought and possess rare ability therefor are probably the most numerous. Then comes another class who do not prate so inordinately upon their special qualifications, but they are spell binders in their way and when one has finally disentangled himself from their grasp he has had an up-to-the-muzzle dose of what is familiarly known as an "old timer's" record. Yet strange as it may seem there is a general disposition among a large class to underrate and belittle the services and acts of heroism of these "bull team" Nestors. Quite a numerous class seems to be of volcanic origin—projected as it were upward and deposited as the result of the recent financial panic. They look cadaverous and anxious and seem so willing to sacrifice their personal wishes to the wants of the people. After carefully studying all these different types individually and in group we are forced to the inevitable conclusion that never before in the history of their county have the republicans had such a bright galaxy of talented, well qualified, patriotic, zealous and self-sacrificing array of candidates to select from. There is, indeed, an encouraging manifestation of growing patriotism among the gifted citizens of this community. Time there was when men good and true were slow and loath to allow themselves to be dragged into the vortex of politics with its uncertainties and disappointments. But thanks to the noble men and self-sacrificing disposition of the rank and file of our citizens, we have lined before us a grim and determined array of peat up talent only waiting for the word to step forward and don the yoke of obedience to the demands of an insistent constituency.

The Herald has been selected by the Afro-American club as its official paper. This is a merited tribute of recognition to an able, fearless and staunch republican journal that has successfully weathered the adversities of twenty-seven years. At all times ably edited, bright and sparkling, it is a welcome visitor not only to the business men but to the household. The Messrs. Fisk, sons and nephews are apparently on their mettle, since going it alone, judging from the unusually attractive appearance of their always more than ordinarily interesting paper.

HIGH TARIFF—HIGH WAGES.

Reduced Duties—Reduced Wages.

Senator Mills—and he is an authority on the matter—in a recent speech before the senate, the pending question being the recently enacted tariff bill, said: "The whole history of tariff legislation demonstrated that reduction of duties resulted in increased importation and increased revenue." We would like to inject this sentence—full to the brim with solid truth and facts—into the empty craniums of some of the blatherskite jawsmiths that we have heard stand up before audiences of honest unsophisticated workmen and try to make them believe that there should be a reduction in tariff duties because it would inure to their benefit, and that therefore they must be democrats to protect themselves and be prosperous. What intolerable bosh! Mills, who is a representative exponent of democratic tariff reform, declares in explicit terms that INCREASED IMPORTATION will result from reduction of duties. What do increased importations mean for the American wage earner? It simply means that there will be a reduced demand to buy his labor, or if bought at all it must be had at a reduced rate. Why? Because our manufacturers cannot afford to pay more for labor used in producing given commodities than the same labor is paid abroad for like commodities, for the simple reason that they must compete in price in order to stay in the market. It matters not with the wage earner how tariff theorists differ on technicalities or whether duties are specific or ad valorem, but let him keep both eyes open and pencil in hand, and when he is approached by tariff butchers and quacks, let him write down for his answer in large plain letters, "Give me a high tariff, for it decreases foreign importations, raises domestic wages and guarantees steady remunerative work for American wage earners."

The capital fight is warming up and our people are mixing up fireworks, hurrahs, brass bands and the like as side dishes to the cold and stubborn facts why Helena should be the permanent capital.

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.

Congressman Hartman to be Renominated By Acclamation.

The state convention to meet here on the 6th will no doubt be composed of many of the most distinguished citizens of the state. The indications point to a large, harmonious and enthusiastic gathering. The proceedings will partake largely of a love feast. It is conceded on all sides that the splendid and brilliant record of Congressman Hartman deserves special recognition by his party, and that he should be renominated by acclamation, which will undoubtedly be done with such genuine enthusiasm that our distinguished representative will have a practical reminder of the high esteem in which he is held by his fellow citizens. Several distinguished and learned jurists will be presented for associate justice of the supreme court. A new state central committee will also be chosen.

REPUBLICAN COUNTY CONVENTION.

Many Are Called But Few Will Be Chosen!

The republicans of this county will convene on Tuesday, the 4th, for the purpose of nominating members of the legislature and county officers, and also to select delegates to the state convention. Judging from the list of delegates it will be composed of a larger number of distinguished gentlemen than have ever assembled in the county on a like occasion. It will undoubtedly be such an enthusiastic and harmonious gathering of leaders that the party will enter the campaign cemented as a unit. While the candidates for the various offices are legion, yet good feeling seems to prevail on every hand, and while many will be disappointed, we are safe in the prediction that none will sulk. On the contrary, we are led to believe that the successful candidates will receive the hearty and earnest support of their less fortunate brethren, and that all will unite to roll up a regular old time republican majority.

THE STATE FAIR.

Big Crowds, Fine Races, Excellent Exhibits.

Under the able management of its efficient directors the Twenty-fifth Annual Exhibition of the Montana State Fair, has been the most successful yet. The grounds, exhibits and general aspect of things gave evidence of careful and skillful preparation, reflecting great credit on all parties concerned. The crowds have been large, nine thousand being present on Thursday, and everyone seemed highly pleased. The races have been exceptionally fine and the general exhibits were fully up to the average. On the whole the city has just reason to feel highly flattered at the success attending the fair, and visitors have had their most sanguine expectation realized.

SEND IN THEIR NAMES.

The Names of All Colored Citizens in the State Wanted.

We desire to obtain a complete list of colored citizens residing within the state. We therefore kindly ask that friends in the cities and towns throughout the state send us the names and postoffice address of the heads, male or female, of as many colored families as can be conveniently obtained. Persons so favoring us will have acknowledgment thereof made through the columns of this paper.

AFRO-AMERICAN CLUB.

A large and enthusiastic meeting of this club was held last Wednesday night. Prof. Cole's excellent band enlivened the proceedings with patriotic airs. President J. P. Ball, Sr., delivered his inaugural address, which was an able paper full of wise and sound advice to the members of the club, as well as to the colored voters throughout the state. We regret that want of space prevents us from producing it in full. Interesting addresses were also made by vice-president Jas. Crump, B. F. Hooper, W. P. Hough, Mr. Wheaton of Livingston and others. The club will meet again Wednesday night.

The Seattle Republican is one of the brightest, best edited and newest colored papers published. Mr. H. R. Cayton, its editor, is a gentleman of very considerable newspaper experience, having climbed the rounds from editor and proprietor of a crossroads hand bill in Kansas to local reporter of one of the leading dailies of Seattle, Wash. He is made of just the kind of stuff that constitutes a typical journalist. He is an energetic rustler and don't down at every blow though aimed with a strong arm. We predict for him long and continued success.