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THE RED LODGE PICKET.

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF CARBON COUNTY AND THE CITY OF RED LODGE.

WALTER ALDERSON, Editor and Manager

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FRIEND OF THE FARMERS.

Reports which The Picket has received from the country districts visited by John N. Tolman, republican nominee for representative, are uniformly to the effect that the farmers, whose votes will play an unusually important part in deciding the issues of this campaign, view with general favor that gentleman's candidacy and will give him loyal support at the polls. The plain, common-sense, heart-to-heart talks being made to the electors out in the country by Mr. Tolman are indicative of his splendid characteristics: they show that he is thoroughly in earnest and fully awake to the important interests affecting the welfare of every section of the county.

Mr. Tolman, if elected, will go to Helena with fixed purposes in view and will have something tangible to present to the legislature in the shape of convincing arguments for desirable legislation.

There are three subjects of paramount importance to the farmers and stockgrowers, and each is receiving the present attention, as it will the earnest advocacy in the legislature, of Mr. Tolman. Briefly stated, these propositions are:

First—The passage of a law to determine water rights without the present necessity of expensive litigation.

Second—The repeal of the present abortive road law and the enactment in lieu thereof of a measure that shall guarantee to the taxpayers the best possible highways for the least possible expense.

Third—The straightening out of the present tangled condition of the stray law so as to protect, insofar as possible, the rights of both rancher and ranger.

These are not questions proposed for political effect; they are real, live issues, and of vastly greater importance to the country electorate than all the democratic stump discussion of monetary standards, Philippine occupation or imperial policy that can be crowded into all the rounded periods of a volume of rhetorical flourishes. And best of all, Mr. Tolman is not only pledged to the farmers' interests by a political platform of principles, but he believes in the justice of the cause which he is espousing and will honestly and energetically strive to secure legislative enactments along republican platform lines.

These matters are mentioned principally for the benefit of those who have not heard Mr. Tolman earnestly discourse on these subjects. Had the campaign been a week or two longer, it would have been possible for him to have spoken in every precinct in the county, but under existing conditions he is deprived of so doing, much to his disappointment. However, he will be heard from through good report in legislative work if honored with the votes of the farmers and day laborers. Anyway, let's try Tolman and see.

VOTE THE STRAIGHT TICKET.

At the last election, under the law as it existed then, it was only necessary to mark the election ballot in the circle at the top of the column, this mark designating that the voter cast his ballot for all the candidates in that column. Under the present law, however, the voter must mark an X in front of the name of each candi-

date for whom he wishes to vote. The circle at the top has been eliminated. It is incumbent upon all republicans and all classes of voters who desire the election of good, competent and faithful men to office to select the column headed "Republican Party," which in the Carbon county ballot is the first column on the left of the ticket, and follow down that column and place an X opposite the name of every republican candidate in the little square to the left of the name. Don't do any trading. At the last election republicans agreed, in many instances, to vote for some democrat, in return for some republican. The results showed that republicans carried out the agreement, while not a democrat voted for a republican. Vote the straight ticket and you will make no mistake.

DEMOCRATIC CORRUPTION.

Some astounding revelations are coming to light in the political fight now being waged with so much bitterness between the millionaire leaders of the opposing wings of Montana democracy.

During the visit to Red Lodge of Mr. Heinze it will be remembered that in his address at the opera house he charged Charles W. Clark, the son of his famous father, with an attempt to bribe one of the district judges of Silver Bow county, accusing him of having offered Judge Harney \$250,000 to decide the Minnie Healy mining case in favor of the plaintiffs. These charges, repeated with such persistence and vehemence by Mr. Heinze and his newspaper, the Butte Reveille, have finally brought a denial from Mr. Clark, the son, who, to add to the further rottenness and infamy of the situation, makes a counter charge against Mr. Heinze, which, if true, places that gentleman in the attitude of endeavoring to make the "arch boodler of the century" look like thirty cents.

After denying the Heinze accusation relating to the alleged bribery offer of an insignificant \$250,000, a mere bagatelle by comparison, Mr. Clark, over his own signature, tells the people of Montana, through the columns of the daily press, that he was offered \$2,500,000 by Mr. Heinze to help him in his efforts to control the political affairs of the state at the November polls. This offer, Mr. Clark says, was made last June in the parlors of the Silver Bow club and that all that was required of him in order to get this big bag of boodle was to keep his father out of the state during the campaign and use the old man's influence in endeavoring to carry the state for Heinze insofar as relates to the little matter of electing the associate justice, the Silver Bow district judge and the legislature. Upon being asked by Mr. Clark where he (Heinze) was to come in, the latter remarked, in an offhand manner, that he would be in a position, if his political plans carried, to compel the Amalgamated people to pay him \$7,000,000 or \$8,000,000 more for his mining property in the Butte district than he could otherwise get.

Mr. Clark declares that he took the proposition under advisement for half an hour and then spurned the two and one-half million-dollar offer with loathing and contempt. Thus did the son of one who is sometimes accredited with being the richest man in the world demonstrate the fact that he is no cheap guy. But Charley wouldn't have entered into this appalling conspiracy if the sum had been doubled, trebled or quadrupled; there was a chance, you know, for the gold-brick game to be worked. However, we don't doubt the veracity of either Mr. Heinze or Mr. Clark, and we believe that the majority of the electors of this state, looking back over the political corruption and infamy and debauchery of the past, are prepared to believe most any kind of political

crime which these political factions may allege against each other.

It was a sad, but glorious day when Senator Clark and Mr. Heinze fell out—sad for Montana democracy and the good name of the commonwealth, and glorious because the revelations now being made will eventually in such a popular uprising next Tuesday as will relegate the entire corrupt political gang to oblivion and place in power a party with clean hands, unsullied name and untarnished honor.

ANOTHER DEMOCRATIC CANARD.

Some of those who are championing the candidacy of the democratic nominee for county superintendent of schools are causing a story to be circulated in the country districts to the effect that she is a poor girl out of a job and that on this score she is much more deserving of the office than Martha Dilworth, her republican opponent. The campaign canard about this estimable lady being unemployed is only being worked out in the country where the facts are unknown. It wouldn't do to circulate the pathetic plea in this city, where the democratic candidate has a good position in the public schools. As a matter of fact she has held a position in the Red Lodge public schools continuously for the past four years and is at the present time serving her fifth term, which does not expire until next June, receiving for her services a salary practically equal to that of county superintendent. To give the exact figures, her salary as teacher amounts to within \$1.56 per month of the salary of the office to which she aspires. Were she to be elected she would have to resign her present position; while her opponent would be out of a job. On the other hand, if the present incumbent is retained in office, both of these deserving young ladies will have employment. The matter is simply mentioned in order that the voters may not be led astray by the circulation of a story that has no foundation in fact. We don't see why the opposition can't be honest in campaign matters.

DIVISION OF THE STATE.

The proposition to divide Montana and erect a new commonwealth out of the counties constituting the eastern portion of the state is being seriously considered at this time by the people of eastern Montana, who have grown weary and disgusted with having all legislation of the state absolutely dictated by the mining interests of the west side. The present bitter fight between democratic millionaires for supremacy at the polls, and the detestable methods employed in the fight, can find no approval or endorsement among the citizenship of eastern Montana. The scenes of bribery and corruption that have marked recent sessions of the state legislature are indelibly fixed upon the mind of every citizen who has a decent regard for the rights of others and an abhorrence for the high-handed crimes and misdemeanors that are directly traceable to those who are now enjoying, undisturbed, the fruits of their damnable practices. It is little wonder that the independent manhood of eastern Montana has been aroused to action and that the people are desirous of severing the umbilical cord that binds them in the unwilling clasp of the vast corporations that practically control all legislation and dictate every law that is placed upon the statute books of the state.

The democratic nominee for county attorney is bragging about having the votes of the farmers in his vest pocket, but we have sufficient confidence in the intelligence and independence of the tillers of the soil to believe that their votes are not in any man's keeping. What the gentleman should say is that he is figuring on getting his hands into the farmers' pockets.

PENSIONS FOR OLD SOLDIERS.

A striking illustration of the generous manner in which the United States government, administered by a republican president and a republican congress, takes care of its old soldiers, the veteran heroes who so loyally fought for the preservation of the American flag, has just been given a local application in the case of Pete Marshall, the Roberts rancher, who gets his pension doubled, with back pay amounting to over \$5,000. This makes one feel like throwing up his hat and shouting for the party that placed the pension laws on the statute books.

And in this connection the voters of Carbon county and the state of Montana should not forget that the state republican platform, adopted at Great Falls, on Sept. 27, 1902, contains the following planks:

We recognize that the debt of gratitude due from this generation to the soldiers of the civil war cannot be paid in money; that the badges they wear are badges of honor beyond and above price. At the same time we recognize that in all ages the debt due them might, in part, be paid by liberal pensions.

We approve the pension laws heretofore passed by republican congresses, and we recommend such amendments thereto as may respond to the fair demands of the soldiers who saved the Union between 1861 and 1865.

We further favor liberal pensions to the injured survivors and the widows and orphans of deceased soldiers of the Spanish-American war.

FALSE AND MALICIOUS.

In the interest of fair play and without any desire to excite prejudice against any man, The Picket appeals to those voters who, not knowing the facts, have heard the story reflecting on the sheriff's office, whether repeated as a rumor or told as the truth, to pay no heed to that story, for it is grossly false in every particular. Even the Carbon County Chronicle, which is giving the democratic nominees loyal support, absolves its candidate for sheriff from any complicity in the circulation of the canard and even goes so far as to assert that "the statement, (questioning the justifiableness of the killing) while malicious, is so ridiculous that The Chronicle does not deem it necessary to go at any great length to refute it." We have quoted the Chronicle's exact words. Anyhow, if the killing in either case had not been justifiable this newspaper wouldn't have hesitated one moment in saying so. We don't believe that any person who has ever been a reader of this page will doubt that assertion. Any time an officer of the law or anybody else snuffs out life's candle, unless in absolute justification, you can gamble your last dollar that The Picket won't stand idly by so long as the hand that writes this is able to put pen to paper.

Our esteemed democratic contemporary up the street comes to the defense of the democratic candidate for sheriff and denies that he has circulated any campaign canard reflecting on his republican opponent, and admits that the story told in certain precincts is malicious and ridiculous and devoid of truth. Those who have heard the miserable accusation know whether they heard it from the democratic nominee or whether it came from some of his "fool friends" with or without his knowledge or consent, and will give the matter the consideration that it merits. But no matter who started the canard, it is sufficient to know that a coroner's jury composed of such men as B. E. Vaill and F. Freiman, after hearing all the evidence, unanimously declared under oath, without hesitation or mental reservation, that the killing of the Finlander was absolutely justifiable. And

it ought to be sufficient also to know that the killing of the horseshoof was so clearly justifiable that no inquest was held, although Sheriff Potter repeatedly asked that the homicide be officially investigated.

The esteemed Chronicle doesn't undertake to say that the democratic nominee for county treasurer, if elected, will depart from the practice which he established when he was in office before, namely, that of "double-shooting the turn with only one bet down." It will not do to claim that because a republican official employs his wife as his deputy it is better to elect a democrat who will do likewise, in preference to electing a republican who will give employment to somebody outside of his own family. The Picket is consistent in this matter. It believes that it is a pernicious practice for a public official, whether republican or democrat, to try to corral everything. It is a great deal better to have the money that is paid out by the taxpayers put into general circulation than to have it put into one man's pockets. Vote for Chas. E. Wright for county treasurer.

It has remained for the esteemed Dillon Examiner to discover a "weighty" reason why the democratic legislative ticket of Beaverhead county should be elected. This reason is that "a vote for the republican legislative candidate means a vote for Tom Carter." What sublime political reasoning! What a huge chunk of political wisdom! Still, it's about as good as the average democratic newspaper has to offer. If a vote for the republican legislative candidate really meant a vote for Thomas H. Carter, and this alone, thousands of democrats all over the state would be glad of the chance to do some democratic repeating for republican nominees. Mr. Carter is the brainiest man in Montana and has done more for the people of this state than can be told in detail in any one issue of any Montana newspaper.

If you wanted to hire a man and should have the applications of two equally competent and conscientious workers, would you give the job to the one who has a permanent position with somebody else, in preference to favoring the one who hasn't a permanent position? That's the situation with reference to the democratic and republican nominees for county clerk. The former has a good situation as Northern Pacific agent, while the latter isn't that fortunate. The voters who have been out of work themselves ought to look at this matter in a fair and rational manner. Why not let Jesse Smith retain his office for two years more? Why deprive his opponent of his present situation as Northern Pacific agent at Joliet.

It is too much to expect that all republicans will vote a straight county ticket, but there certainly can't be any good reason advanced that would justify any man who believes in the principles advocated by President Roosevelt in voting any other but the republican congressional and legislative ticket. Mr. Dixon is a clean and honorable man and an able advocate of the cause of the common people, while Mr. Tolman is personally known to the voters of Carbon county as a gentleman every way worthy of the confidence and support of the business man, the rancher and the day laborer.

Vote for F. C. Woodward for county attorney and give a capable young lawyer an opportunity to demonstrate his fitness for the position. His opponent has already had two terms and has been a candidate for office at every election held in Carbon county.

Candidate W. R. Crockett made a hit at Bridger last week in delivering an address on female suffrage.

Suppose that Charley Clark had accepted Heinze's little offer of \$2,500,000 and then been unable to deliver the goods, what would the clerk at the Waldorf-Astoria say to John Pierpont Morgan when that gentleman called and asked to have his card sent up to Mr. Heinze? The Picket offers a prize of \$5,000,000 for a correct answer to the question.

There will be no circle at the top of the ballot this year. Voters must place an X in the square before the name of every candidate they wish to vote for. If you neglect to place the X before the name of any of the candidates, those candidates do not receive your vote. Do not forget this when you go into the booth to prepare your ballot.

California will this year produce 90,000,000 pounds of prunes. If the orators and managers of the democratic campaign in Carbon county should take an emetic they would be able to beat California in raising prunes.

Judge Matheson of Billings is a nice old man, a legal light, a brilliant journalist, and all that, but in his race for county attorney he's liable to lose because he is so very, very fat.

Every rancher in Carbon county should vote for Charles E. Wright for treasurer. He is a fellow rancher of yours and represents the outside people.

Republicans, whatever you do, don't cut John N. Tolman. We need him in the legislature.

JURY RETURNS VERDICT.

East-Bound Train Was Ahead of Time When Collision Occurred.

The coroner's jury which has been in session at Billings investigating into the responsibility for the train wreck which occurred at Rapids on Oct. 4, held its final session last Saturday and returned a verdict to the effect that train No. 4, eastbound, was ahead of time at least three minutes and found that the train dispatcher at Park City was guilty of contributory negligence. The verdict is as follows:

"The jurors on their oaths say that the said Andreas Lundwall and J. A. Campbell came to their deaths by means of a collision between trains Nos. 4 and 5 of the Northern Pacific railway, one and one-half miles east of Rapids' switch, Yellowstone county, October 4, 1902, at or about 4:52 on the morning of the said day, and that in the opinion of jury said train No. 5 had, under the time card of the Northern Pacific railway, the right to the track at the point where the collision occurred, at the time it occurred, and that said train No. 4 was not less than three minutes ahead of its schedule time at the time the collision occurred; that the jury further believe and find that the train dispatcher was guilty of contributory negligence in not having given said train crews definite telegraphic meet orders as had been the custom on the Montana division." F. H. Benjamin is the foreman of the jury and the members were: E. C. Anderson, C. S. Broder, R. H. Daniels, J. A. Gully.

It is likely that the railroad authorities at Livingston will now take up investigation of the case, having been awaiting the outcome of the inquest. Both conductors have been at work since the accident occurred and no one has as yet been laid off or discharged.

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