

DAILY INTER MOUNTAIN

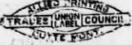
Issued Every Evening, Except Sunday.

INTER MOUNTAIN PUBLISHING CO. M. A. BERGER, Manager.

26 West Granite street, Butte City, Mont.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES. Per year, by mail, in advance \$7.50 By carrier, per month \$1.00 Semi-Weekly, per year, in advance 2.00

Official Paper of Silver Bow County.



SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1899.

Republican Ticket.

For Mayor. JOHN N. KIRK. For City Treasurer. BEN E. CALKINS. For Police Magistrate. JAMES C. SULLIVAN.

ALDERMEN.

Second Ward. O. N. PERRY. Third Ward. P. F. BOLAND. Fourth Ward. CHARLES BAUSMAN. Fifth Ward. JOS. ARCHAMBAULT. Sixth Ward. H. KROGER. Seventh Ward. W. C. THOMAS. Eighth Ward. E. D. ELDERKIN.

Republican Resolutions.

At the threshold of the city's campaign, we, the delegates of the republican party, in convention assembled, congratulate the party upon the harmony and unanimity of all republicans in a united effort to redeem this city from the rule and misrule of democracy; and submit for your consideration the following resolutions:

That the exigencies of the situation demand the earnest cooperation of all good citizens in the election of men to public office whose ability and reputation in this community guarantees the faithful discharge of every duty imposed upon them, and who will jealously guard the interests of our people.

That in the interest of labor and good government we demand that the affairs of this city and its officers shall not be dominated or controlled by any corporate power; and in conformity to the traditions of the republican party we demand that wages be maintained at a high standard; and, further, that no employee of the city government be paid his wages in depreciated warrants, and that he be not assessed for the benefit of any political organization.

We condemn the secret levy of tolls upon inhabitants of this city as notorious violation of the law; and we further record our condemnation of the extravagant and improvident expenditure of the large revenues collected from the people of this city, for which no adequate protection is afforded against the assaults of road-agents and thugs, and deprivations of housebreakers and thieves, who rob the people of what little is left after the visit of the tax-gatherer, under the present and past democratic administrations; nor is the faithful expenditure of such revenues observable in the proper care of the streets and avenues of this city, or improvement of sanitary conditions.

That the interest of the taxpayers, the protection of the homes and firesides of our people imperatively demand retrenchment and reform in the administration of the affairs of this municipality, and the faithful expenditure and accounting for the large revenues of the city.

That the protection of the interests of this community as a whole is a paramount issue in the city campaign, and we unhesitatingly condemn any effort to convert the machinery of the city government into a vehicle for the financial and political ambitions of any man or set of men.

Silver Republican Resolutions.

Whereas, The forthcoming city election will be a contest for good local government, involving no issues of a national character; be it

Resolved, That the silver republicans of the city of Butte in convention assembled place no ticket in the field, believing that the ends of good local government can thereby be best conserved.

Resolved, That we condemn in unmeasured terms the action of the silver republican members of the Sixth legislative assembly in proving traitorous to the trust reposed in them during the recent session of the legislature in the selection of a senator to succeed the Hon Lee Mantle, who was endorsed by our party in state convention and whose record as a silver republican has been indorsed by every member of his party.

PARTY MEMBERSHIP.

When unhampered by the embarrassments of the political world, the Anaconda Standard is usually an astute reasoner and able logician, and its facile pen commands the respect and confidence of intelligent men. But when forced by the exigencies of a political situation to reverse all precedents and hew out a new path for itself, in order to win its point, it grows lamentably weak in the head and unsteady in the knees.

This is conspicuously true in its present effort to read one wing of the democracy out of the party. It overlooks the essential features of partisan fellowship. The Standard's wing of the party can no more force the Clark men out of the organization through the adoption of a resolution in the city convention, than the Clark men could force their enemies away from their political affiliations by resolutions affecting their integrity as men. Personal character is not an issue in party fellowship.

If any political party sought to purge its ranks of the membership of men whose integrity is not beyond question, it would be assuming a function that properly belongs to the church or to the fraternal orders. Besides, it would go hard with the party. Think of the democratic party in this state starting a movement of that kind! And yet this is precisely what the Anaconda Standard's wing of the democracy is attempting to do in one case, and, mark it, only in one case. It is not trying to establish a new test of party fealty, namely, honesty in political life, which it would apply to all. Oh, no. But it wishes to lay down a new rule to be applied to one man alone, and force him and his friends out of the party on that issue.

Its ability to pass a resolution accusing a man of having bribed a democratic legislature does not carry with it the ability to eliminate him from his political affiliations. Control of the local machinery of a political organization by one set of men or another is merely a matter of temporary concern, and has nothing to do with the application of political principles. If this were not true the compliment of reading rivals out of a party would become reciprocal, and degenerate from a party pastime into a most ridiculous farce through which all political cohesiveness would be finally lost.

Conventions have the power and the right to indicate by resolution a change of heart as to the treatment of issues within the purview of their authority, but they have no right to read out of a political party any man who is professedly true to the fundamental principles of the organization. A republican primary, for instance, might essay the role of a fly on a bull's horn and pass a resolution reading the president of the United States out of the party, but its authority would receive no recognition outside the little local sphere of political pomposity in which the resolution originated. So, too, a city convention may attempt to read out of a political party a man who has been elected to the United States senate by the legislature of a state, controlled and dominated by the same organization, but its authority in such matters absolutely amounts to nothing, and no court in the world would sustain its action were it to become a question for legal consideration.

The purview of a city convention, from a legal standpoint—and a legal standpoint means plain, common sense—is limited to municipal affairs. It cannot soar beyond its heights as a political body and make the acts of a legislature of its own political color the grounds upon which to read men out of the party to which it belongs. It therefore follows that the attempt of that wing of the democratic party in this city, familiarly known as the hill democracy, to read its opposing faction out of the party, is a violation of all political rules and is in contravention of the political rights of the members of that party.

The efforts of the Anaconda Standard to make it appear that one wing of the democratic party has been forced from its political moorings, by virtue of a resolution reflecting the ill-will of another wing that is temporarily in control of its local machinery, are specimens of political demagoguery of the rankest type. There are no grounds upon which such an action can be honestly based,

and the assumption is one of the most dangerous to the community that could be made, for it revolutionizes the established rules of party procedure and leads to the disintegration of political parties. In the nature of things, political organizations are necessary to the well being of the country, for through them the people must look for public policies that will conserve the ends of good government—local, state and national.

A rule that would permit a city convention, representing but a small fraction of a political organization, to read out of the party men who have been endorsed by higher bodies of the same political faith, and to whom objection is made merely on the grounds of personal dishonesty, would disrupt and destroy every political organization in the land. Should such a condition arise it would place the control of public affairs wholly in the hands of dishonest schemers, who have personal ends to serve, and the masses would be robbed of the leverage now possessed by them through the medium of duly organized political bodies founded on certain principles that are deemed advantageous to the whole.

That disorganization and chaos which would ruin the republic, and convert it into a feudal system of petty tyrants, if universally adopted, has been attempted by the hill democracy in this city with a view to the mastery and control of municipal affairs.

Party membership is a matter which each individual must settle for himself. The man who believes in the principles of a party cannot be eliminated from membership, though his personal acts may be distasteful to those in control of its machinery. That is a settled principle in political ethics, and even the learned and classical pen that scintillates through the readable editorial columns of the esteemed Anaconda Standard will not attempt to seriously controvert it. Its contention that the Clark wing of the democracy has been eliminated from the party falls to the ground, and in the place of it arises the assumption of an authority that ought to serve as a danger signal to every man who believes in the liberty of conscience, the freedom of political action, and the God-given right of the people to rule.

THEN AND NOW.

The natural tendency of our democratic friends to indorse the public men and measures of the republican party, after the most bitter opposition, finds another brilliant illustration in the discussion of John Sherman. Next to the censure heaped upon Abraham Lincoln by the democracy, during the dark days of the civil war, John Sherman has posed as a favorite target. During the period of the resumption of specie payments, the distinguished Ohioan was particularly obnoxious to democrats. They looked upon the new financial order of things as the forerunner of national ruin, and upon Mr. Sherman as the messiah of evil. But the times change and men change with them, so it is written, and it is refreshing, as political matters go, to read the following indorsement of the ex-senator in the Anaconda Standard of this morning:

He did his best in the days when he dealt in a masterly way with the civil war's finances and when he brought the government back to the specie-payment basis.

This tardy recognition of the ability of the republican party to settle questions growing out of a war, in a manner satisfactory to all the people, leads up to the hope that sometime within the next quarter of a century the Standard may mellow down sufficiently to discover that President McKinley handled the Philippine question wisely and well. With equal violence, but with more justice, Mr. Sherman was assailed for the part he played in the demonetization of silver. His course was denominated a crime. The Anaconda Standard has branded Mr. Clark as a criminal with no more energy than it displayed in roasting Mr. Sherman. If half it said about Mr. Sherman were true that gentleman should have been expelled from the senate of the United States.

Yet, when he finally resigned from that body, to accept a cabinet position, and was no longer able to wage war on silver, the Standard saw in his retirement a conspiracy to ruin the veteran statesman. It flew to his rescue, just as if the crime of 1873 had not been committed. It up-

braids the republican national administration, for forcing out of public life the man who—according to the Standard's own declaration—surreptitiously and criminally demonetized silver, and made it possible for the gold men to get into the saddle. This morning the Standard accredits the illness of Mr. Sherman, not to the fact that the old gentleman is 76 years of age, but to the following combination of circumstances:

But Mr. Sherman has grown old recently at a pace that is not accurately measured by months and weeks. In his case it is the collapse of courage and of ambition, the gnawings of disappointment, the recollection, constantly recurring, that he was made the victim of a course politician's selfish ambition and that he was fairly thrust out of the senate, where he had hoped to round out his days, in order to satisfy the greed of a brutal upstart in national politics.

In concluding his comments with the statement that "John Sherman rendered splendid service to his country," the Standard carries out the sublime thought of the poet who said: "To err is human, to forgive divine." Having forgiven the author of the crime of 1873, and accusing his alleged enemies in public life of being brutal upstarts, at a time when it is trying to prove that the election of a republican to the office of mayor in this city will prevent congress from remonetizing silver, the Standard shows that it has the courage of its convictions. The public may confidently look forward to the time when it will laud the Hon. W. A. Clark to the skies.

TWO WAYS OF DOING THINGS.

It is gratifying to note that the irretrievable ruin that threatened the city of Helena, according to the Independent, has been happily averted by placing a stub train on the run between Logan and Garrison. When Butte was placed on the main line of the Northern Pacific, on account of the commercial importance of this city, our neighbor over the range felt that disaster had marked it for its own. Fortunately, its fears were groundless, and all will sincerely congratulate our sister city on securing the stub train.

It was certainly a mistake for the good people of Helena to attribute any changes made in the train schedules of the Northern Pacific to anything else but a desire to conserve the business interests of the company. It was actuated by no disposition to injure Helena, otherwise it would not have put on the stub train before the Business Men's association of that city had time to pass appropriate resolutions.

The fact is, the capital city should recognize the logic of the situation. Civil war never helped any country, and is especially disastrous to a city. While Helena is inhabited by thousands of as good persons as the sun ever shone upon, many of the leading spirits of that community have waged interminable war on each other for years. They have chopped at each other right and left, and the roster of broken banks is more chargeable to intrigue and underhanded processes among rival interests than to the actual financial strain of the times.

Whenever no opportunity to undermine a bank presents itself, the people over there enjoy themselves getting each other indicted by grand juries. This affords employment to the lawyers, who would otherwise have to depend entirely on politics for their munificent incomes. One of the favorite vocations of the citizens of Helena is the election of city councils that will override the statutes made and provided, in order to break up organizations of capital that have been trying to keep the town from going into competition with Fort Benton for first place among the has-beens.

To discourage capitalists from further investments in the town they also elect mayors whose only qualification for office is the energy they have displayed in ruining invested capital and putting thumb-screws on the public enterprises of progressive men. It is these things, not its lack of business opportunity, that has placed Helena in a position where it is saved from ruin only by running a stub train from Logan to Garrison.

In Butte things are essentially different. No matter how much our citizens pull hair in a political way, our leading men, without reference to their political views, do all in their power to build up and promote the business growth of the city. Personal and political bitterness is not permitted to reach a point where the nose is amputated to spite the face. Capital and its enterprises are given the glad hand of fraternal welcome. It is encour-

aged and protected. The result is, Butte has gotten beyond that critical point in the history of a city where its future depends upon a stub train.

The employees of the Hennessy store have organized a club for literary, social and benevolent purposes, and will meet in spacious quarters provided for them by Mr. Hennessy in one of the upper stories of his palatial building. The movement is a good one and will result in much benefit to all concerned. Great credit is due Mr. Hennessy for so generously encouraging it.

The Standard need not fear that its friends will be overlooked. The courts will take care of them in due time. It is not the province of the Inter Mountain to individualize and attach a label to every law-breaker in town. It would look too much as if the democratic party was holding a festival.

Today the Montana volunteers are in the front of a great battle that is being waged in the Philippines with 12,000 insurgents. The hearts of many of our people beat with anxiety as the hours roll by. May God preserve our brave boys from the fatalities of war.

The democratic handicap, to which the Standard alludes, is the handy cap which the hill democracy is trying to pull over the eyes of the voters.

Democracy and Silver.

The Standard is one of the newspapers that have felt that an exact statement of the ratio is not a vital factor in silver's restoration. The ratio is a matter of law; it has varied slightly in our own currency; our ratio has also varied slightly from the one that has ruled in some other countries. The world's exchanges practically fix the ratio—Anaconda Standard, January 9, 1899.

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