

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

The Movement to Win the National Council for San Francisco.

STATE CLUBS TO MEET HERE.

Annual Assembling of the Executive Council of California—Its Objects.

The annual meeting of the Republican Executive Council of California, held last Saturday night in Judge Belcher's court room, was an important one.

The objects of the council are: First—To create, foster and promote harmony in the Republican party in the State of California.

Second—To maintain and advocate the principles of that party as they may from time to time be enumerated by its recognized conventions.

Third—To use its best efforts for the nomination of loyal, patriotic, honest and capable citizens for office.

Fourth—To do all in its power to secure the election of all regularly nominated candidates of the Republican party.

Fifth—To give such aid and counsel to regular Republican officers during their term of office as the conduct of such officers shall merit.

Sixth—To increase the bonds of union and good fellowship among the members of the council and the members of the several organizations represented therein and to advance the interests of the party at all times and in all cases, according to qualifications and merit.

Seventh—To aid and assist the State Central and Republican County committees in all Republican work.

Eighth—To promote and perfect organization within the Republican party in the State of California.

In the line of carrying out these objects the council at the meeting on Saturday decided to use its best efforts to bring the National nominating convention to San Francisco and to take up the silver question.

The following named organizations are represented in the council: The Union League Club, Bear Club, Morrow Club, Legion of Republican Clubs, Beaver Club, Veteran Soldiers and Sailors' Club, Unity Republican Club, Austrian-Slavonian Republican Club, United Railroad Club, Rank and File Club, Woman's Central Republican Club, a number of district clubs and the Afro-American League, which organizations represent over 10,000 voters, but not including the Woman's Club, which as yet has not but soon hopes to secure the ballot.

At a recent meeting of the executive committee of the council it was decided to nominate a representative in each Senatorial district of the State to carry out the objects of the council with a view to having the entire State interested in the silver question.

- First District..... Frank McGowan
Second..... Samuel Conklin
Third..... T. L. Ford
Fourth..... C. F. Royce
Fifth..... J. W. Neely
Sixth..... J. H. Jewell
Seventh..... Frank Coombs
Eighth..... Hale McCowan
Ninth..... J. A. Buckles
Tenth..... H. G. Burnett
Eleventh..... W. N. Anderson
Twelfth..... C. A. H. Wardell
Thirteenth..... F. D. Ryan
Fourteenth..... Judge J. F. Davis
Fifteenth..... W. J. Robinson
Sixteenth..... C. L. Carter
Seventeenth..... A. P. Williams
Eighteenth..... Dr. E. J. Smith
Nineteenth..... Henry Lauckman
Twentieth..... Cord H. Wetjen
Twenty-first..... G. W. Root
Twenty-second..... J. C. Geating
Twenty-third..... Phillip Hammond
Twenty-fourth..... Samuel W. Backus
Twenty-fifth..... Phillip Brown
Twenty-sixth..... Louis Schafer
Twenty-seventh..... Judge W. B. Hamilton
Twenty-eighth..... James J. Way
Twenty-ninth..... E. C. Ross
Thirtieth..... A. B. McCabe
Thirty-first..... Daniel McGinley
Thirty-second..... M. Norton
Thirty-third..... H. G. Rooney
Thirty-fourth..... J. Hollister
Thirty-fifth..... Judge Daly
Thirty-sixth..... J. Savage
Thirty-seventh..... H. C. Osborne
Thirty-eighth..... J. R. Finlayson
Thirty-ninth..... W. W. Douglas
Fortieth..... A. G. Gasson

Each of these sent a notice of acceptance, and all the letters and telegrams received show that these persons, who will be delegates to a convention to be held in this city in the near future, are very enthusiastic in the matter and in favor of San Francisco for the National convention.

It will be the duty of the State delegates to organize auxiliary councils in their respective districts, and from the assurances of some of them, they were present at the meeting of the parent council it is safe to say that they will enter the work with a degree of enthusiasm that will not die out while there is a hope of securing the nomination.

The following named were appointed a special committee to confer with a like committee from the Union League Club to make arrangements for the coming convention: Oscar A. Tolle, J. E. Field, John Whiteside, N. Wynants and Mrs. A. L. Ballou.

These committees will meet as soon as General R. A. Fredericks of the Union League Club returns to this city, probably within a week.

The council has been in communication with Mrs. J. Ellen Foster of the Woman's National Republican Association, which organization has declared strongly in favor of the National Republican convention being held in San Francisco and has given pronounced views on silver during its meetings held in Cleveland, Ohio.

Mrs. Foster, who is president of the organization, has been asked to use her best efforts in the advancement of the movement to have the National convention meet in this city.

During the evening the meeting was addressed by A. J. Buckles, Superior Judge of Solano County, who in an earnest manner urged those present to put forth their best endeavors to secure for this city the National convention of the Republican party, to arouse a feeling in every part of the State to that end and to stand by the action of the party in regard to silver.

The following named were then elected officers for the ensuing year: President, M. Cooney; first vice-president, Edward Briggs; second vice-president, R. A. Fredericks; secretary, Oscar A. Tolle; treasurer, Albert Hauser; executive committee—General John McComb, S. W. Backus, H. C. Firebaugh, J. A. Whiteside, J. E. Field, F. Hanson, Mrs. A. L. Ballou, T. B. Morton and H. W. Quilow.

The Richmond Residents Want Him Made the City Engineer.

SENATOR PERKINS' OPINION.

The Technical Society and the Geographical Society Will Take Action Soon.

The citizens of the Richmond District, through the Point Lobos Improvement Club, have made an excellent suggestion to the Board of Supervisors.

It is that Professor Davidson be made the City Engineer. This would give San Francisco a valuable and accomplished official who would in all probability be able to save the city a larger amount each year than the proposed salary of \$3000.

The suggestion comes in the form of a petition from the club and reads as follows: To the Honorable Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco—GENTLEMEN: Your petitioners, the Point Lobos Improvement Club, of the Richmond District, of the City of San Francisco, and also on behalf of the whole of the residents and taxpayers of the City of San Francisco, respectfully address you on a subject which we conceive is more than the interests of our City government that any question which has yet been brought to your attention.

Circumstances have arisen during the past week which are well known to each member of this board—affairs which, we believe, are of the highest importance to the City of San Francisco, and we consider that the loss to the government of the United States is incalculable because of the loss of the services of a man whose professional knowledge is not available to the City of San Francisco.

To this end we make the proposition to your honorable board that the office of City Engineer be vacant and that you proceed to reorganize that office on such a basis as is most imperative and demanded by this city.

Questions of importance have arisen which have shown that your honorable board has had no engineering talent on its staff to meet the emergency of the situation.

The Spring Valley Water Company has a trained engineer whose opinions delivered before your honorable board cannot be met and properly weighed in the absence of a professional knowledge is not available to the City of San Francisco.

When the question of hydrants is brought before the board you should know before paying out the funds of the citizens if the hydrant will give a proper and sufficient supply of water at all times of the day or night.

You are aware that our hydrants are in a state of disrepair and as they all cost alike there are many chances to one that scores of thousands of dollars will be wasted.

The railroad companies operating in this city have skilled engineers whose arguments for the performance of their duties are injurious to the interests of the citizens cannot be controverted on your part by professional authority.

Commissioners employ a trained engineer whose professional knowledge is not available to the City—this is a matter of the highest importance to the City—this is a matter of the highest importance to the City.

In many respects, has been called in to advise the board on the subject of the hydrants, and he has been the chief arbiter, have had to look on and let our interests go by default.

The question arises, "What are we to do with our streets?" and engineers have been repeatedly requested to help the City government to a better state of affairs.

You will be asked in a few days to place hundreds of thousands of dollars in the hands of inexperienced men to make these streets, roads and boulevards.

We respectfully ask you to pause before you do so. If you are spending your own money you should know the value of the money you are spending.

The severers of this City will call for a large appropriation. Every dollar you set aside for the purpose of the City is a dollar that is not available for the City.

It is important that proper safeguards be placed on the money that is being expended, and the discoveries made by a late reporter of the City.

Now, he continued in a fluent flow of language, encouraged by the undivided attention given him, "I have always tried to do all we could to meet the wishes of the Chief."

But the Chief was sitting next to him. "Never!" he interjected sharply. "Never, sir."

"Well, we always wanted to. I am sorry you do not agree with me," said Schussler, somewhat taken back by this shot.

"I am sure you always wanted to come here and give your views on these matters," said Sullivan to Mr. Schussler, who now did.

"Why, you didn't want me to come to town," said Sullivan, "I can't allow you to make those statements uncontradicted," said Sullivan stoutly.

"Well, I can't see how you can say so," but let that pass. Let us turn our attention to these old-fashioned hydrants," said Schussler, a little red in the face.

"I am sure you will agree with me that they are out of the question," said Sullivan.

"Oh, certainly," said the Chief.

"But, yet you tried to make use of them?" cried Schussler in an effort to make a point.

"I tried every possible means of getting water," said the Chief, dryly.

"Well, to have big pipes in every street will cost money," said Schussler.

"Yes, but we want them at once in very many of our districts, especially in the residential districts," said the Chief, warning to the subject every minute.

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ant Secretary Thomas F. Trener said yesterday that the society, of which Professor Davidson is the president, is ready to act, and there would have been a meeting of the board on Wednesday afternoon.

A Decision of Considerable Interest to the City's Creditors.

THE AUDITOR IS SUSTAINED.

Contractors Must Keep Informed Regarding the Municipal Finances.

The Supreme Court has decided the case of A. Smith, assignee of City creditors, against Auditor Broderick in favor of the contention originally set up by the Auditor when he refused to pay the demand for old claims.

By the decision, too, it appears that there is no way in which the creditors can get their money, for the courts will not allow it, and the constitution bars any possibility of the question being submitted to the people.

The question involved was the right of the City to pay from the funds of one year the demands of the preceding one. The decision sustains Auditor Broderick's contention that such a proceeding would not be legal.

The plaintiff, Smith, was the assignee of various claimants, the claims dating prior to June 9, 1893, upon which date he commenced his claim against the City. Just before the commencement of the action the Supervisors had passed a resolution authorizing the City and County Attorney to allow judgment to be rendered against the City in all such cases as those brought by Smith.

Smith presented his judgment to the Supervisors with a demand for its payment, and this demand was approved by the Finance Committee on July 26, 1893. The auditor's claim was then presented to Auditor Broderick, who refused to approve the same and an application for a writ of mandate compelling him to audit the demand was made.

The amount of this claim was \$258,033. The Auditor's refusal to audit the demand was that the claims were for material furnished during the year ending June 30, 1893, and that, therefore, the funds for that year being exhausted, the demands could not be paid out of the income of the next fiscal year.

Section 18 of article XI of the constitution, upon which the decisions of both the Superior and the Supreme Court are based is as follows: No county, city, town, township, board of education or school district shall incur any indebtedness or liability in any manner, or for any purpose, which shall exceed the income and revenue provided for it for such year, without the assent of two-thirds of the qualified electors of the county, city, town or township.

It had already been decided by the Supreme Court that the framers of the constitution meant by this section that in no year were the expenses of a municipality to exceed the income for that year, and such a construction of the statute is injurious to the City and works a hardship upon those who contract with it, the court says:

We have neither the right nor the disposition, by judicial interpretation, to take away the wholesome restriction thus imposed by the constitution. Of course, in giving effect to the intent of the framers, we are not to change conditions of things, it will not be strange if some shall be found to suffer, but it must be remembered that an act to amend the law, and that whoever deals with a municipality is bound to know the extent of its powers.

There is ample power in the statutes which constitute the charter of San Francisco to provide for all the contingencies that are suggested in the arguments on behalf of the plaintiff. The Supervisors are authorized to levy a tax that will raise such an amount of money as the said board may deem sufficient to provide for the payment of any and all claims against the City.

The limitation upon this power, viz., \$235 on the 1st day of January next, is not a limitation upon the power to levy a tax for any other purpose than for the payment of the claims against the City.

The assessment roll of property, subject to taxation, is made prior to the levy of this tax, and in determining the amount of this tax to be levied, the Supervisors, aided by the experience of the municipality in former years, and by the estimates of the several departments of the City, are to determine the amount of the expenditures likely to be incurred during the year, and to make such provision for unforeseen emergencies as ordinary prudence would suggest.

If the amount of money so provided is not sufficient for the expenditures of the year, it can be carried forward into the next year, whereas if the revenue thus provided is not sufficient to meet the expenditures, there is no provision for meeting the deficit, except by the assent of two-thirds of the qualified electors thereof voting at an election to be held for the purpose.

The fact that the demand of the appellant was reduced to a judgment does not, in the opinion of the court, give him any stronger right of recovery. The provision of the constitution mentioned cannot be evaded by a part of the officers of a municipality that injures the public interest.

It may be entered against it upon an open demand that constitutes no liability. The effect of the judgment was only to make definite and of record a claim which was already a claim of the City, and to convert a disputed into an audited claim. The fact that the judgment was evidence of an obligation does not foreclose investigation as to the nature of the obligation as well as the liability thereon.

Regarding the proposition of levying a tax in a subsequent year to pay the deficiencies of the previous ones the court says: The collection in the subsequent fiscal year of a tax levied in the present year for the express purpose of paying this judgment did not give to the plaintiff any additional right to the payment of his claim, or any right to the money thus collected. The provision of the constitution limiting the power of the City to pay the claims of the present year, means that only the income and revenue that had been provided for the expenditures of the present year can be applied to the payment of such claims.

To hold that any deficiency in the revenue of one year can be covered by taxes collected in a subsequent year under the guise that they had been collected for the purpose of paying the claims of the present year, would sweep away the entire restriction which the constitution intended to place upon the power of the City.

Unless it be the duty of the Auditor to allow the claim of the appellant the writ of mandate cannot be allowed. By section 87 of the constitution, the Auditor is required to be constantly acquainted with the exact condition of the treasury and every lawful demand upon it, and to report the same to the Board of Supervisors.

When Mr. Schussler and other representatives of the water company gathered about Chief Sullivan and wondered very quietly if they could not meet him by themselves some time during the week discussed.

"No," said Sullivan, emphatically. "I have talked this matter over with Mr. Schussler and the rest of you for the last week, and I can't see how I can do it."

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NEW TO-DAY-DRY GOODS. BEVERLY GREAT LEADERS. July 3 TO-DAY! July 3

In connection with the Clearance Bargains that have drawn such crowds this week we offer the following special lines to-day

At an Extra Sacrifice! LADIES' HANDKERCHIEFS!

At 5 Cents Each. 200 dozen LADIES' WHITE HEMSTITCHED AND TUCKED LAWN HANDKERCHIEFS and COLORED EMBROIDERED HEMSTITCHED LAWN HANDKERCHIEFS, regular price 10c, will be closed out at 5c each.

GLOVES! GLOVES! At 40 Cents. 55 dozen LADIES' 8-BUTTON LENGTH MOUSQUETAIRE UNRESSED KID GLOVES, in fancy shades, extra good value for \$1, will be closed out this day for 40c a pair.

At 75 Cents. 80 dozen LADIES' 4-BUTTON KID GLOVES (large buttons), in dark and medium tan shades, black and white, extra value for \$1.25, will be closed out this day at 75c a pair.