

THE LEON REPORTER

O. E. HULL, Editor.

LEON, IOWA

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THE GOVERNOR'S VETO.

Governor Carroll has vetoed the Oregon plan law providing that the people of Iowa shall say who shall represent them in the United States Senate, notwithstanding the proposed law passed both the senate and house by good majorities, and speculation is rife as to whether the legislature will be able to pass the law over the governor's veto. In order to pass it the bill must receive a two-thirds majority in both the senate and the house, and March 18th, has been fixed for the time of voting on it. Should either the senate or house fail to cast the required two-thirds vote in favor of passing the bill over the governor's veto it is immediately killed and it will not be necessary for the other branch of the legislature to vote on it. There has been a great deal of criticism of the governor's action, and it has been intimated that the message vetoing the bill was not written by governor Carroll, but by a well known corporation attorney of Des Moines. Governor Carroll gives as his reason for vetoing the bill that it violates both the federal and state constitution.

"The entire measure," he wrote, "constitutes an effort to indirectly accomplish something which cannot be done directly, and it is therefore an attempt to evade the constitution. The question which we must determine is whether we, as citizens of a great commonwealth and a great republic will insist upon strict conformity to and compliance with the provisions of the constitution or whether we will encourage the enactment of laws that seek to circumvent some of its positive requirements."

Says It's a Menace.
The governor also pointed out that if this policy is followed it will not be until there is a demand for the direct election of presidents, and that "an effort will be made to require that candidates for presidential electors shall surrender their constitutional and statutory rights to vote for the presidential candidate who receives the largest popular vote."

Evasion of Constitution.
Because of the above reasons and because I believe that the solemn oaths taken by members of the legislature should be respected and held inviolate and because that I believe that the constitution in all its parts should be immune from practical nullification, subversion or amended according to its own terms and requirements, and because I believe that states as well as public officials and private citizens should conform to and observe the spirit as well as substance of the constitution, and because I believe the enticement of such laws as the measure in question is a practical undermining of the constitution and a danger and a menace to our form of government, and because I believe that the effect of such legislation will be to lessen the respect of the people in general for the fundamental law of the land, I herewith return house file number 1 without my approval."

Sensation in House.
When the veto message was read in the house there was a decided sensation as the word had been passed along that the veto was not to come until tomorrow. Immediately on reading the message Dabney moved to make it a special order for 9 o'clock tomorrow. Moore objected to this and said there was no occasion for making haste in the matter. It was finally agreed to vote on the Oregon plan bill veto at 10:30 o'clock tomorrow, when it will be passed in the house.

A Factional Issue.
That this veto may have the effect of emphasizing the dividing line between the factions is freely predicted. Aside from the senatorial contest the factional line has not been very well defined in the legislature. The veto will force an issue aside from the senatorial election.

Following the veto the bill must first go to the house, which originated the bill nominally, and the house will unquestionably pass it over the veto. The senate will not be able to pass it over the veto. It will take thirty-four votes to pass the bill in the senate and it received only thirty-one on first passage. The other three can hardly be secured. The veto for the Oregon plan for direct election of senators will be sure to come up as an issue in the campaign in the future especially if Governor Carroll carries out his intention of being a senatorial candidate.

The bill that passed is exactly the bill of Senator Smith and Representative Klay, which was prepared before the legislature met. It is a bill effecting the general election and not the primary, for nominations for senators will be made just as now and afterwards, at the time of the general election, the opposing candidates, one from each party, are pitted against each other.

What Law Contemplated.
Under the Oregon plan, as explained by Senator Smith, who introduced senator file No. 1 to provide for electing senators that way, the party nominations are made in exactly the same way as now, and in fact there is no change in the primary law as regards the party nomination of candidates for the senate. But it goes further and provides, in brief, that at the November polling the people of the state will have a right to choose as between the republican and democratic nominees, just as they now have the

right to choose as between the republican and democratic nominees for state offices. A republican candidate for the senate, nominated in the regular way by a majority of the republican ballots, or a plurality, will be pitted in the political arena against a democratic candidate nominated by the democrats. The one who meets with the favor of the largest number of voters in November will go to the senate. That is all there is to the Oregon plan.

Everything else in the bill has relation to making certain that the will of the voters is carried out regardless of the present constitutional obligation on the general assembly to exercise its free judgment in selection of a United States senator.

LET'S SEE ABOUT IT.

The Manson Democrat, whose editor is secretary of the Democratic State Central committee, and therefore directly concerned, says: "The editor of the Denison Bulletin is not in sympathy with the idea of the democratic state central committee in keeping the state headquarters open the year around and intimates that the rank and file will not 'come across' with any contributions. If this newspaper is not very badly mistaken the editor of the Denison Bulletin gets more real cash out of the fact his is the big paper in a democratic county than any other democratic newspaper man in the Tenth district gets for the same reason, and another thing, the editor of the Bulletin has received fully as many honors at the hands of his party in the district and state as any other editor in the district, hence he should contribute to his party's general fund in as liberal a manner as he can afford and not tighten up his purse strings and try to discourage others from contributing."

The question is not whether the editor of this paper makes a dollar a year or a million a year. However that is we submit that he earns every cent of it. But we do claim that as a democratic paper of Iowa The Bulletin has a right to its opinions and to differ with the state central committee as to matters of party policy without being abused for it by anybody. The Bulletin editor has spent about as much money in attending to party affairs in the state and county as the average man has, and has never worked any graft to get any of it back. If being a national delegate from the district just once is our entire share of party honors in 21 years, then we have paid for the honors. But during that 21 years we have learned something of party management, local and state.

One thing we believe we know is that one dollar contributed to the state campaign fund next year will be worth ten dollars contributed at this time in order to maintain a "state headquarters" and clerk at Des Moines for the purpose of addressing letters to "The Fighting Force of Iowa." Crawford county politicians share this view of the matter with the Bulletin so far as we can learn. If other democrats in Iowa do not, well and good. They have the right to think as they please. So far as Crawford county is concerned, it is part of Missouri and must be shown before the state committee can "bull" anything through on us.—Denison Bulletin.

It looks as though the Republicans were preparing to desert their high tariff doctrine and come over to the Democratic position on the tariff question. The people are up in arms and Republicans recognize that they are up against it—they see the handwriting on the wall.—Gallatin Democrat.

"We can see no objection to the Oregon plan that does not legitimately apply to the ordinary method of electing state officers. The legislature has passed it and the governor should let it stand," says the Iowa City Citizen.

It is hinted that President Taft will veto the Sulloway pension bill. "We hope not," says the Knoxville Journal. "The republican party had much better increase pension expenditures than subsidize shipping trusts."

A MAN'S STOMACH.

Is Just as Good, or Bad as He Makes It.

If you are blessed with a good stomach be thankful and make up your mind to keep it good.

If you have a bad stomach; one that makes you feel miserable after eating; one that turns your food sour and causes gas to belch up in your mouth, then you want to get busy at once and turn your bad stomach into a good one.

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We have now moved from our old location on west Commercial street to our own building, formerly known as the brick sale barn, on east Commercial street, where we are now transacting business. We have an ideal building for the implement, harness and automobile business and are fast getting it arranged into a model store. We have ample room where customers can see our line in all departments without suffering any inconvenience and at the same time be comfortable in all kinds of weather. We cordially invite you to call at our new store. We will be pleased to see you.

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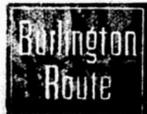
Over the Burlington Route in Charge of Prof. Hugh G. Van Pelt, State Dairy Expert. The train will be at

Leon, 7:30 p. m. to 10:00 p. m. Thursday, March 2

and will carry some of the most improved champion dairy-bred animals which will be used to demonstrate the essential points to be observed in selecting and breeding great economical and profitable milk and butter producing cows; baggage car loaded with miniature silos, cow testing machines and dairy literature. Lectures will be given by representatives from the Iowa State Dairymen's Assn., the State Dairy Commissioner's Office, the Iowa State College and others.

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