

WORST OF DEMOCRATS

They Faithfully Expected Populists to Fraternize.

But, Goodness Gracious, the People's Party Members Were Mean.

The democratic convention was well attended, but it was also the most disappointed body of fusion hunters ever assembled in Whitman county.

When it accepted with great alacrity a fusion proposition said to come from the populist convention just before noon the democrats all felt gay. They thought they had the populists in a fluster, and that by a vote of 54 to 34, the populists refused to meet in the afternoon to be responsible for anything done by a democrat it was a knockout blow.

DEMOCRATS WERE THERE.

But They Were Hunting a Chance to Fuse.

Secretary MacKenzie opened the democratic county opera house a few minutes after 1 p. m., Thursday, with a call which was a departure from the stereotyped democratic call. As officially announced, anyone who was willing to support democracy was welcome.

L. J. Laird of Garfield was named for temporary chairman. It was received coldly; and then D. M. Holt in a eulogistic speech named C. W. Waters of Palouse, who was received more warmly, but not enthusiastically.

Laird was supposed to represent the Chadwick contingent and Waters the Hanna element.

L. J. Lindley was chosen as secretary without opposition.

From Colton two delegations were in seats. This made a somewhat swelled-up delegation. One noticeable one was the democrats who were there to turn out well.

It was moved and carried that where delegations were double and in contest neither be allowed to vote for temporary chairman.

Brothers Smith of Tekoa and McCroskey of Garfield were there. Mr. McCroskey aspired to something that he could not carry when he made a motion not to vote by ballot. It was beaten by a rising vote of 101 to 69.

The vote on temporary chairman was taken and Laird was chosen. The strength of Waters was a surprise to him because of his pitiable weakness. Laird took them from every quarter of the county except East Palouse, where Waters put up his politics, and the result was Laird 123, Waters 56.

Waters moved that election of Mr. Laird be made unanimous. This was endorsed, and Mr. Laird mounted the stage and said that if judicious methods were used every vestige of republicanism would be swept from the face of the earth.

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Chairman Laird appointed as committees: Credentials—L. G. Smith, Tekoa; G. P. Libby, Johnson; Col. Duling, Garfield; W. E. McCroskey, Palouse; E. E. Padlock, Farmington.

Platform and resolutions—Thos. E. Miles Oakesdale; C. W. Waters, Palouse; R. C. McCroskey, Garfield; R. L. Warmoth, Diamond; T. G. Mulkey, Rosalia.

Order of business—L. F. Darr, Uniontown; W. E. Thompson, Farmington; J. W. Blair, Fine City; J. W. Johnson, Oakesdale; F. P. Egan, Palouse.

J. K. Eacho, a Hanna man, moved that a committee of five be appointed to confer with the populist party. It was carried by the weakest kind of a vote on both sides.

Recess was then taken for 30 minutes for committee reports.

The committee on conference with the populists was appointed as follows: E. J. Doneen, Oakesdale; L. P. Turnley, Rosalia; J. H. Fussy, Palouse; Seymour Manning, Pullman; T. A. White, St. John.

The Second Turn. When the convention reconvened after a tedious delay to hear from the Eacho fusion committee the time was taken up by making the temporary organization permanent, and an inexorable delay of the credentials committee.

This and the report of the credentials committee were well received. The order of business was decided upon as follows: Nominations for superior judge, sheriff, prosecuting attorney, auditor, treasurer, assessor, school superintendent, commissioners, surveyor, coroner, 27 delegates to state convention, state senator from Sixth district, representatives.

Waiting for the Populists. The gentlemen of the democratic convention were then afraid of their own prowess and their own bluffs, after waiting hours to hear from the populist senator at the court house, who had never made a sign that they cared to be swallowed by the amalgamated contortionists. They were particularly anxious and badly fretted. They knew that their salvation depended upon the action of the populists. Other people guessed it.

An enthusiastic fusionist in the south side of the audience proposed adjournment on the spot at 4:30 to await the long delayed pleasure of the unwilling populists and the peaceful return of the committee of five sent out to treat.

Another less enthusiastic delegate from the same side of the house proposed that the other fellows show some alacrity in their movements and moved to give the populists 20 minutes to come to terms. This suited, and during this time the democratic party went out and felt the pulse of the populists. All independence was thrown to the winds.

Articles of Faith. The platform and resolutions committee reported this, and it was swallowed: We, the democratic party of Whitman county, in convention assembled, do hereby reaffirm our allegiance to the principles of the Chicago platform, and to the great exponent of those principles, William Jennings Bryan.

We demand effective legislation to curb the power of trusts, and as steps in that direction recommend the abolition of protective tariff duties on trust-controlled articles.

We demand the election of United States senators and the president by the direct vote of the people.

We favor the construction of Nicaragua canal, but demand that it be controlled and fortified by the principle of direct legislation as a curb to the abuses of the representative system of government.

We commend the honesty and economy of the present state administration.

We demand the strictest economy in the administration of county affairs, and pledge our candidates, if elected, to such a policy.

We favor a reasonable reduction of freight rates, and hereby pledge our legislative nominees to use their best efforts, if elected, in securing such reduction.

Friday and Saturday Ball. Ball will be played on the Colfax grounds Friday and Saturday afternoons at 2:30. The Friday game will be between the Garfield and Colfax nines, and on Saturday the undefeated Whitman College team of Walla Walla will meet the invincible Colfax aggregation. In order to secure the college boys it was necessary for Manager MacKenzie to guarantee an expense fund of \$5, and for this reason an admittance fee of 25 cents will be charged.

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The consensus of opinion of all delegates who took their feet after the news of dire disaster was spread except of Fusionist R. C. McCroskey, was that no more flirting with the tickle populists be done—that they were unworthy of the love bestowed upon them.

A vote was taken then to determine whether the convention would proceed to adjourn without the aid of any kind of a populist. By a respectable majority it was voted to go ahead.

Then Fusionist John Eacho raised the point that the convention was out of order, but was promptly hissed down and out.

Chadwick for Judge. C. F. Stuart of Colfax, in a neat and well turned nominating speech, named E. K. Hanna for superior judge, and it was as neatly seconded and well applauded when Eacho made his eulogistic talk.

Miles of Oakesdale eloquently named S. J. Chadwick and a rousing ovation greeted him before the second could be made.

Nominations were closed and a motion to vote by ballot, amended to vote by precincts, called a division and was carried 89 to 61.

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Hanna was called for and met the most flattering reception as a defeated candidate. He lined up and asked that Chadwick be supported to the last ditch, but said the convention had thrown away a great opportunity to build up the democratic party. He said Shorty Brown was running the populist convention, and that such as he was not talking for nothing.

Mackay Will Try Again. When the nomination for sheriff was called, R. C. McCroskey named J. B. Mackay of Colfax, and a delegate followed it up with a second and a demand that he be chosen by acclamation, and it was done.

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Rev. K. H. Parker, one of the new arrivals, said he was raised on a democratic knee until two years ago, and he had some experience, but he never did labor with such a lunkheaded gang in all his life; that the populist layout was in the interest of Shorty Brown.

Lucius Cassin Crow violently seconded it. H. W. Canfield said he was not a delegate in the populist convention and therefore did not bolt it, but he thought that a grievous error had been made when fusion was turned down and said he believed this convention represented the people's party.

C. N. Hinckley said populism had forced democracy to come down where a gentleman could support it, and was ready to support this ticket from top to bottom, if it was a good one.

By rousing vote the bolters from the populist party were seated.

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The question now, with both Superintendent Ransom and the sheriff's office is to find the guilty boys who perpetrated the tragedy. The little boy was almost dead when discovered and has many cruel marks upon his arms and body. Within a few minutes he has been freed from exhaustion, and was almost in that condition when discovered.

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