

THE TALLAHASSEE

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THE FIRST DISTRICT Which Should Govern the Apportionment OTHER NEW SUGGESTION

Together With an Analysis of the
Population of Each District.

Editor Tallahassee.—Recently the Times-Union and Citizen offered a plan for the territorial subdivision of the State into three Congressional Districts, as the census of this year, doubtless, will show a sufficient increase of population to entitle the State to another Congressman. In commenting over the Times-Union and Citizen's plan of division, I was struck with the entire absence of any principle on which it was founded. It pays no attention to the political exigencies attending the formation of the First and Second Districts. It overlooked the necessity for approximating, as near as possible, to an equal division of the white population and giving it preponderance, for a reason too well known to require remark. It ignores the prime factor of equality of numbers and the relation of colors. In fact, the genius who parceled out the apportionments of the new districts was actuated, as he confessed, by a sentiment favorable to Congressman Davis, which is conspicuously absent in behalf of Congressman Sparkman.

The Times-Union and Citizen makes up the proposed First District out of the counties of Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Holmes, Jackson (from which that paper drops 540 of the population), Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Liberty, Madison (ejected from the 2d), Santa Rosa, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton and Washington, all lying west of the Suwannee river.

The foregoing counties contain a total population of 157,691; or, whites, 79,462; blacks, 78,229—a close margin and an unnecessary one, as will be next shown.

The Times-Union and Citizen gathers the following counties into its proposed Second District: Baker, Bradford, Brevard, Clay, Columbia, Dade, Duval, Hamilton, Lake, Nassau, Orange, Osceola, Putnam, St. Johns, Suwannee and Volusia.

The above 16 counties contain a total population of 160,141; or, 93,813 whites and 66,328 blacks—quite a distinguishing majority of population, and minority of the colored element.

But the Times-Union and Citizen shows still more plainly that it is a rage with the Jacksonville appropriation fever, in its apportionment of the following 13 counties as its proposed Third District: Alachua, Citrus, DeSoto, Hernando, Hillsborough, Lee, Levy, Manatee, Marion, Monroe, Pasco, Polk and Sumter.

The last named counties contain a total population of 146,807, or, whites, 98,282; blacks, 48,525; making a difference of 13,337 population in favor of the Second District. If any reason for this evident inequality, if not designed unfairness, could be given, it might be overlooked. It did not grow out of any difficulty in making a just and very nearly equal apportionment of population to the three Congressional Districts to be formed.

A district is required to contain 135,239 inhabitants. The census of 1895 gave the population at 464,600. One-third of this sum is 155,000 in round numbers. It is obvious that an equitable division of the population, with liberal preponderance whites in each district, is the principle to govern in the premises. Each district should have as far as possible 155,000 inhabitants as postulated, especially observing that condition. This can easily be done, as follows:

Take Madison from the First District, and add Levy and Putnam (which now belong to it); and this will give it a total population of 155,826; or, 81,320 whites, 4,309 blacks.

Compose the Second District of the counties following: Baker, Bradford, Clay, Columbia, Duval, Hamilton, Madison, Nassau, Orange, Putnam, St. Johns, Suwannee and Volusia. These counties contain a total population of 178,086; or, 95,454 whites, 82,632 blacks.

contain a total population of 154,587; or, 105,277 whites, and 49,310 blacks.

A still more just apportionment, for political and other considerations, would be to add the counties of Hernando and Pasco to the proposed First District. Combined population of the two counties, 7,637, (whites 5,000, blacks 1,637); which the proposed Third District can easily accommodate, as the white population of that district greatly preponderates; and, although the counties assigned to the First will leave the Third only 133, the population will be largely in excess of the Congressional basis. By such sensible division no disaster can occur, through political exigencies, in either of the districts before population again demands reapportionment.

As Florida has an immense seaboard on the Atlantic and Gulf, most of the business of her Congressmen pertains to maritime affairs. The division suggested will give each representative ample scope and verge enough for the display of industry and ability in such matters.

CONSERVATIVE.

The Other View
In view of the probability that the next apportionment will give Florida three Representatives in Congress instead of two, the question of how to re-district the State becomes a matter of interest. The changes made in district lines are especially of interest to those who are already Congressmen, their friends, those who expect to be Congressmen, and likewise their friends. The member from a given district wishes that district to be meddled with as little as possible. He has made his friends, and he doesn't want to see that incorporated into some other district and made the friends of some other man. As to the two Representatives from Florida, it may be said that it is possible to run the lines so as to give Mr. Davis nearly all the counties now composing his district without the addition of any new counties whatever.

The present First district, however, has such geographical features as would compel it to bear the brunt as it were of the redivision. The fact that the Congressman therefrom would have a compact South Florida district, would, in some degree, compensate him for the loss of counties in the western part of the State. If a division is made upon the most natural lines, Hillsborough county will be near the geographical center of the district, and the center of population as well, and while many counties from the First district, as it now exists, will be cut off from the district containing Tampa, it is unlikely that only three taken from the Second district will be added to it.

The population of Florida was 391,000 in 1890, and 464,000 in 1895. An equal increase for the last five years will give 537,000 in 1900. While the population of the State may prove to be slightly below or slightly above that number, it is fair to all parts of the State to assume the number mentioned as the probable population for 1900, in order to show how the apportionment may be made easily and naturally by the population would mean approximately 180,000 to each district, and having assumed that the State will like the same increase in population between 1895 and 1900 as between 1890 and 1895, it may also be assumed that each county will do the same. If so, the First district, which lies at the Suwannee river; and is composed of the following counties, with population in 1890 and 1895 as stated below:

PROBABLE FIRST DISTRICT.		
	1890.	1895.
Escambia	20,188	22,503
Santa Rosa	7,961	8,914
Walton	4,576	7,902
Washington	6,426	7,820
Holmes	4,336	6,332
Calhoun	1,687	3,274
Jackson	17,844	21,390
Gadsden	11,891	13,683
Liberty	1,452	2,079
Franklin	3,308	4,475
Leon	3,117	3,700
Jefferson	17,752	19,597
Madison	15,757	18,007
Taylor	2,122	3,052
Putnam	14,316	13,360
Lafayette	3,686	3,783
Total	136,256	157,171

In those counties the gain between 1800 and 1895 amounted to 20,915, and, with a like gain from 1895 to 1900, the population of this district would be 178,086. This is within 1,000 of the exact third of the estimated population of the State, and this, with the fact that the State is too narrow beyond the Suwannee for division into two districts, makes it practically certain that the counties named will compose the First district. All are now in that district except Madison.

To the Citizens of Leon County:

An organization of the citizens of Leon County has been perfected for the purpose of preventing the removal of the Capital of the State from Tallahassee. This organization invites and solicits the aid and advice of every resident of Leon County, and particularly requests that every resident of the county become a member of the Capital League. Copies of the constitution can be seen at several business houses in Tallahassee, and all residents of Leon County friendly to Tallahassee are invited to read the constitution and by-laws and become a member of the League to aid in this work.

Suwannee to be divided into two districts and this division may be made by running a line between the counties east and west and separating the northern from the southern part of the peninsula, or one running north and south, and dividing into districts lying to the east and west of the line.

The last division would probably be made for several reasons. In the first place, the southern part of the State is increasing more rapidly in proportion than the northern, and a division by an east and west line would give two districts approximately equal in population now, but would hardly be so in 1900, because of the more rapid increase of the southern part. A division by a north-and-south line would give two districts with population approximately equal in 1910 as well as in 1900. This would be more equitable than a division leaving the districts unequal in population.

In addition to this is a political reason, and such reasons generally have more weight in deciding matters of this kind. A South Florida district would receive a large immigration, and might in time become entirely too close for comfort to the Democrats. By dividing the old settled counties of the peninsula between the two districts, the Democrats would be more certain to secure a comfortable majority in each, instead of an extravagant one in one and an uncomfortably small one, if any, in the other.

The most probable division of the State would then be: For the Second District the following counties, with population in 1890 and 1895 as follows:

SECOND DISTRICT.		
	1890.	1895.
Hamilton	8,507	9,591
Suwannee	10,522	12,544
Columbia	12,877	12,859
Baker	3,333	3,712
Bradford	7,516	8,490
Nassau	8,294	9,593
Duval	28,800	34,760
Clay	5,154	5,200
St. Johns	8,712	11,708
Putnam	11,186	12,361
Volusia	8,647	11,480
Lake	8,034	8,349
Orange	14,941	12,859
Osceola	3,133	3,394
Brevard	3,401	4,558
Dade	861	3,322
Total	139,833	160,161

Those counties show a gain of 20,228 during the first half of the present decade, and, with the same gain for the last half would have a population of 180,389. These counties are all in the Second District, and might remain so, leaving the Third to be made up of the following counties, with population for 1890 and 1895 as stated below:

THE NEW DISTRICT.		
	1890.	1895.
Alachua	18,900	22,497
Levy	6,586	7,534
Marion	20,796	21,875
Citrus	2,394	4,261
Hernando	2,476	2,340
Sumter	5,363	5,308
Polk	3,249	4,675
Hillsborough	14,941	31,362
Pasco	7,905	10,983
Manatee	3,895	2,830
DeSoto	4,434	5,418
Lee	1,414	2,225
Monroe	16,786	17,167
Total	115,683	146,807

A district made of these counties, though in 1885 not as populous as either of the other two, would have its share of population under the census now being taken. The gain was 31,124, and this would carry the population of the district to 177,931, and the State would be divided into three districts so equitably that the difference in the number of the inhabitants of the most populous and least populous would be less than 2,500.

An estimate of the third Congressmen, of course, presuppose a correct census. So many complaints are already being made in many portions of the State that it is a question as to whether the census was carefully taken or not. Where there is ground for the belief that it was not correctly taken, the communities most interested should insist upon a supplementary census, taking the nature of an inquiry as to who were omitted. Where omissions are discovered, the correction should be made, and some way

should be found to have the results incorporated in the census of the State.—Times-Union and Citizen.

No Right To Ugliness.

The woman who is lovely in face, form and temper will always have friends, but one who would be attractive must keep her health. If she is weak, sickly and all run down, she will be nervous and irritable. If she has constipation or kidney trouble, her impure blood will cause pimples, blotches, skin eruptions and a wretched complexion. Electric Bitters is the best medicine in the world to regulate stomach, liver and kidneys and to purify the blood. It gives strong nerves, bright eyes, smooth, velvety skin, rich complexion. It will make a good looking, charming woman of a run-down invalid. Only 50 cents at all Drug Stores.

Tallahassee's Need.

Editor Tallahassee—Do you know, Mr. Editor, that I have been doing a lot of thinking lately along a certain line and I want to tell the good christian fathers and mothers, and all good citizens generally what has been the burden of my thought as to what Tallahassee needs most. With her many other good things which she already has, and that is a first class up-to-date free reading room for both sexes. I do not mean a library as that you already have, but a nicely fitted up reading room on the ground floor, on Monroe street, at a point somewhere between the capitol and post office building, where will be kept a file of daily and weekly papers, books and magazines, not only from our own State, but from all the leading cities of the country over where both young and old of both sexes are welcome to drop in and spend an hour or two in reading the current news of the day at any hour between 8 in the morning and 10 in the evening. You may think this scheme visionary and impracticable, but I assure you it is not, and when once started and on its feet, it will almost go of its own momentum.

For your room you will need an entire well lighted store room 13 to 24 feet wide and 25 to 30 feet deep, with narrow tables arranged around on which are displayed the different newspapers, so that at a glance you may be enabled to select the paper you are interested in and wish to read. Besides these tables you will need shelves, cases and files, to accommodate your books, monthlies, dailies and magazines, many of which will be, as you will find, donated by your patrons and friends.

I would suggest as a name the "Free Reading Room and Association of Tallahassee." And would organize by having a president, directors, secretary and treasurer. The newspaper editors to whom your secretary will write, as a rule, will gladly help in forwarding the movement, and will donate a copy of his paper weekly or daily, as an ad. at all times present in your reading room.

Stamp all incoming papers and matter "property free-reading room," or something like that, thus preventing its being carried off by unprincipled persons.

While your reading room should be free, you must at the same time provide for contingent expenses, such as gas, rent, etc. Therefore I would have a stationary contribution box, properly labeled and placed in a conspicuous place in the room to receive the voluntary offerings of those who feel like helping such a grand and noble work as this along.

Most all your patrons in the course of time, seeing as they will, the uplifting and broadening tendency of your good work in making such a place as this possible, where your sons, husbands, fathers or brothers, and visiting strangers, may spend an hour or so of an evening with such profit, instead of in a place far more questionable, will, I am sure, contribute generously to keep a grand work like this on its feet. And a public entertainment occasionally for this object will do the rest.

Possibly some one of your noble Christian men or women here who

own a suitable room would donate its use to your society free. Let your work be "Christian," but non-sectarian, so that all your citizens may meet on a common ground and work and act together.

I would have the words "Free Reading Room" displayed over your door so that all may know your object and purposes.

What I have written above will apply to the colored race with equal or greater force, and they too can work along the same lines with immense advantage to the young men and women of their race in your city. My ideas are crudely presented here as to details, but with thought and care they can be worked out, and if you go forward you will be enabled to build up in your midst in a month or so an influence for good that you would not have removed for ten thousand times what it has cost you.

His Life Was Saved.

Mr. J. E. Lilly, a prominent citizen of Hannibal, Mo., lately had a wonderful deliverance from a frightful death. In telling of it he says: "I was taken with Typhoid Fever, that ran into Pneumonia. My Lungs became hardened. I was so weak I couldn't even sit up in bed. Nothing helped me. I expected to soon die of Consumption, when I heard of Dr. King's New Discovery. One bottle gave great relief. I continued to use it, and now am well and strong. I can't say too much in its praise." This marvelous medicine is the surest and quickest cure in the world for all Throat and Lung Trouble. Regular sizes 50 cents and \$1.00. Trial bottles free at any drug store; every bottle guaranteed.

Brought Here for Burial.

The body of Mrs. Virginia L. Denham, who died at Jacksonville Thursday night, was brought here on the afternoon train Friday, and buried from St. John's Episcopal Church. Mrs. Denham was a native of Virginia, aged seventy-six years. She had resided in Tallahassee for many years, and was highly esteemed in this community.

Mrs. Denham, who was a daughter of ex-Governor Brown of this State, was named by Gen. LaFayette. The General visited her father's house when she was an infant, and taking her upon his knees asked her name. Upon being told that she had not been named he requested to be allowed that privilege. The request was granted and he named her for the State of her nativity and himself—Virginia LaFayette.

Heartburn.

When the quantity of food taken is too large or the quality too rich heartburn is likely to follow, and especially so if the digestion has been weakened by constipation. Eat slowly and not too freely of easily digested food. Masticate the food thoroughly. Let six hours elapse between meals and when you feel a fullness and weighs in the region of the stomach after eating, indicating that you have eaten too much, take one of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets and the heartburn may be avoided. For sale by Wight & Bro.

Tax Sales and Redemptions.

The State Treasurer has remitted to the several counties entitled thereto the amounts due them from the proceeds of sales and redemptions of tax sale certificates for the month of June, 1900, as follows:

Alachua	\$31.85;	Bradford	\$2.15;
Brevard	\$7.82;	Calhoun	\$3.20;
Citrus	\$11.42;	Clay	\$113.68;
Columbia	\$106.55;	Dade	\$8.68;
DeSoto	\$351.93;	Duval	\$457.50;
Escambia	\$62.54;	Franklin	\$27.80;
Hernando	\$57.95;	Hillsborough	\$374.57;
Holmes	\$6.72;	Jefferson	\$18.41;
Lake	\$298.10;	Liberty	\$12.86;
Manatee	\$24.26;	Marion	\$114.05;
Monroe	\$193.19;	Nassau	\$516.38;
Orange	\$402.18;	Osceola	\$26.49;
Pasco	\$288.49;	Polk	\$128.31;
Putnam	\$91.45;	St. Johns	\$14.02;
Sumter	\$4.56;	Suwannee	\$66.58;
Volusia	\$210.92;	Wakulla	\$7.57;
Total	\$4,941.88.		

Food and Sleep are necessary to life and health. If you can't eat and sleep, take Hood's Sarsaparilla. It creates a good appetite, cures indigestion and dyspepsia, overcomes nervousness and gives sweet, restful, refreshing sleep.

The favorite cathartic is Hood's Pills, 25c.

A New Corporation.

Letters patent have been issued incorporating the Gonzalez Produce and Commission Company of Pensacola, with a capital of \$10,000, to receive and dispose of foreign and domestic produce, including vegetables, grain, animals, wood and merchandise of every kind; to buy and sell all kinds of produce and merchandise. The incorporators are John McDavid, Henry Hyer and C. H. Gonzalez, Jr.

A Wonderful Discovery.

The last quarter of a century records wonderful discoveries in medicine, but none that have accomplished more for humanity than that sterling old household remedy, Brown's Iron Bitters. It seems to contain the very elements of good health, and neither man, woman or child can take it without deriving the greatest benefit. Brown's Iron Bitters is sold by all dealers.

WILL HAVE MONEY

The Democratic Party Not to be so Badly Embarrassed

MANY MONIED MEN IN LINE

Other Interesting News Items from The National Capital.

Washington, July 14.—It is already evident that the Democrats will not be quite so short of money in the campaign this fall as they were four years ago, and that the Republicans will not be able to entirely swamp them by mere weight of gold as they did last time. Some of the Eastern Democrats who have come back into the party this year are expected to contribute with greater or less liberality this year, as an evidence of their good faith and to re-establish their influence in the party. Moreover, some of the wealthy anti-imperialists will, it is said, contribute with fair liberality. From these several sources, and from a few men outside of politics, who are infatuated with Bryan, it is expected that they will be able to raise funds enough for a campaign economically administered. They certainly do not anticipate being as much in distress for want of money as they were in 1896, though they will not have enough to be extravagant with. It is not thought that the Republicans will have as much money as they did in 1896, but there is no doubt of their having as much as they really need or can use to an advantage in the campaign. Now that the Republicans have talked themselves out on the foolishness of their opponents in ratifying the Chicago platform, they are beginning to discover that this was really the strongest thing that could have been done, and to take note of their own weaknesses. For instance, Ex-President Harrison has announced in an interview that Indiana is doubtful and that he shouldn't be surprised to see it go Democratic on the imperialism issue. Democrats would be greatly surprised if it did anything else, but that is not the question now. The New York Tribune, that staunch defender of Republican principles, has also stirred up something very akin to consternation in the inner circles of the party management, by giving the deliberate opinion that the great battles of this year's campaign are to be fought in the States of New York, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota and Michigan. The fact that the Tribune seriously discusses the doubtfulness of New York, Ohio, Minnesota, Michigan and Illinois, certainly should be encouraging to the Democrats.

The administration's treatment of the Cuban scandal, besides being a disgrace to the nation, is becoming most conspicuously unjust. For instance, here is Neeley, of whose guilt no one has the least doubt, living in this country on the fat of the land, while the government lawyers postpone and postpone the proceedings for his extradition. On the other hand, there is Mr. Rich, who is detained in Cuba because his evidence is wanted against Neeley, who may perchance in the distant future be taken back to Havana for trial; out of a position because of his unfortunate association with that prince of embezzlers, his former fellow-citizen of Muncie; unable to obtain employment because the authorities untruthfully heralded far and wide that he had "turned State's evidence." Rich is reduced to hard straits indeed. And this is the fate of the one man in the Cuban postal outfit who promptly made a clean breast of all he knew when the rottenness in the department of posts was exposed. He had not been in Cuba long enough to become deeply involved in the speculations, and even if he had been no one questions his entire innocence.

The Secretary of War has issued an order authorizing Cuban mining companies whose articles of incorporation authorize them to own railroads to import railroad material and equipment into Cuba at ten per cent ad valorem. The recent tariff law gave a monopoly of the importations at reduced rates a syndicate with which Mr. Post was connected. The mining companies protested and showed the liberal interpretation of the law would result in placing the burden of the necessity of buying an increased rate, from those who had the privilege of importing the material at ten per cent.