

# THE BLACKFOOT OPTIMIST

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Before You Can Vote at the City Election **You MUST REGISTER**

## "By Request of Many Citizens"

WHEN MAYOR WEST CALLED THE RECENT CONVENTION OF BLACKFOOT CITIZENS, REGARDLESS OF POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS, UNDER THE ABOVE CAPTION, AND OVER HIS SIGNATURE AS MAYOR, FOR THE PURPOSE OF NOMINATING A MUNICIPAL TICKET FOR THE APRIL ELECTION, IT WAS PRESUMED THAT THE EXPRESSION OF THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE ATTENDING THAT CONVENTION WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO ALL WHO WERE PRESENT AT THE MEETING AND THAT THEY WOULD SUPPORT THE NOMINEE OF THE CONVENTION FOR FUTURE CITY OFFICIALS SELECTED BY THE MAJORITY. IT CERTAINLY WAS NOT BELIEVED BY ANYONE THAT MAYOR WEST WOULD ENDEAVOR TO MAKE A FARCE AND A FIASCO OF THIS MEETING, OR STULTIFY HIMSELF IN AN ATTEMPT TO DESTROY ITS EFFECT OR TO URGE THAT THE ATTENDANT ELECTORS OF THE CITY WERE NOT CAPABLE OF EXPRESSING THEIR SENTIMENTS WITH REFERENCE TO THE OFFICIALS DESIRED TO GOVERN THE MUNICIPALITY.

HE WAS, IMMEDIATELY UPON MAKING THIS CALL, HEARTILY COMMENDED FOR THE COURSE ADOPTED, AND THE CITIZENS DETERMINED TO MAKE THE CONVENTION A REPRESENTATIVE MEETING. IT WAS AGREED, WITH UNANIMITY, THAT THE EXPRESSION OF THE CONVENTION SHOULD CONTROL THE CANDIDATES WHOSE NAMES WERE PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION. THE CONVENTION WAS MAGNIFICENTLY ATTENDED AND IN FACT WAS THE LARGEST EVER HELD IN THE CITY. MAYOR WEST HAD ABSOLUTE CONTROL OF THE ORGANIZATION. THE CHAIRMAN AND SECRETARY WERE HIS ADHERENTS. THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE WAS PREPARED WITH PREVIOUSLY DRAWN RESOLUTIONS HIGHLY COMPLIMENTING MAYOR WEST AND THE PRESENT COUNCIL FOR PAST ACCOMPLISHMENTS. REVEREND EDWARDS, A STRONG SUPPORTER OF THE MAYOR, WAS GIVEN THE

FLOOR AND EULOGIZED HIS CANDIDATE, NOT IN A NOMINATING SPEECH, BUT TO FAVORABLY IMPRESS THOSE PRESENT.

THE RESULT WAS UNFORSEEN BY MANY. MAYOR WEST WAS DEFEATED. L. M. CAPPS WAS SELECTED BY THE CONVENTION AS THE CITY'S NEXT MAYOR.

MAYOR WEST IS THE INSURGENT CANDIDATE FOR RE-ELECTION. HIS ADHERENTS HYPOCRITICALLY CRY "FRAUD," "BALLOT BOX STUFFING," AND THE LIKE. IT IS THE OLD, OLD WAIL OF THE DEFEATED AND THE DISGRUNTLED. THERE WAS NO FRAUD. MAYOR WEST WAS FAIRLY AND HONESTLY BEATEN BY HIS FELLOW CITIZENS. THEY PREFERRED ANOTHER MAYOR. HIS HYPOCRITICAL, CANTING FRIENDS WHO TELL HIM HE WAS UNFAIRLY BEATEN ARE DELIBERATELY FALSIFYING; ARE WRONGING HIM, AND ARE MAKING THEMSELVES CONTEMPTIBLE.

WE HAVE HEARD THAT THERE ARE SOME WHO URGE THAT MUNICIPAL ELECTION IS A CAMPAIGN BETWEEN THE LOCAL OPTIONISTS AND THOSE OPPOSED THERETO. THE CITY RESIDENTS KNOW HOW UNRELIABLE IS THE PURVEYOR OF SUCH MALICIOUS SCANDAL.

THE SAME MAY BE SAID CONCERNING THOSE WHO CIRCULATE THE FABRICATION THAT THE TICKET NOMINATED BY THE CONVENTION IS A PARTISAN TICKET. THE REGULAR NOMINEES ARE REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS; THEY WERE SELECTED WITHOUT REGARD TO POLITICS. THE CONVENTION WAS STRICTLY NON-PARTISAN.

WE ARE FOR L. M. CAPPS FOR MAYOR. HE IS THE REGULAR CONVENTION NOMINEE. HE IS CAPABLE, HONEST AND ABLE, AND WILL SERVE THE PEOPLE FAITHFULLY AND WELL.

THE CHARACTER OF BOTH CANDIDATES IS ABOVE REPROACH. ANY SCANDAL MONGER WHO ATTACKS THE REPUTATION OF EITHER CANDIDATE BY SO DOING MAKES HIMSELF CONTEMPTIBLE AND HE SHOULD BE DISCREDITED BY ALL.