

# Chicago Eagle.

"INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS. NEUTRAL IN NONE."

VOLUME XI.

CHICAGO, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1895—TWELVE PAGES.

NUMBER 279.

## IT ALMOST CAUSED A PANIC.

**Chairman Peabody Almost Stampedes a Gang of "Advisory" Reformers by Asking for Funds.**

**A Select Assemblage of Office-Holding Aristocrats to Name a Mayor.**

**The Most High-Handed and Extraordinary Piece of Political Usurpation in Chicago's History.**

**The County Central Committee of the Democratic Party to Be Ignored and the Convention Instructed.**

**A Remarkable Convocation of Remarkable Men at Democratic Headquarters on Last Tuesday Afternoon.**

There is a new departure among the leaders which is well worthy of notice. It appears that they have wearied of the County Central Committee and are hopeless of ever being able to control the coming city convention.

So with this awful state of affairs staring them in the face, it was decided to call in a number of the members of the "first families" and a few (by way of a sandwich) of the second and third, and ask them if they would please name a ticket for the people of Chicago to vote for this spring.

So, after William Calhoun Asay had had his hair carefully parted in the center, so that his center of gravity was beyond question or dispute, he and J. Caesar Brown, the handsome and dapper-looking young head waiter of the Irvington Club, held a conference. As a result, they decided to invite:

Alexander C. McNeill, Rivers McNeill, and Malcolm McNeill, three brothers, of the same family;

M. M. Kirkman, of Evanston;

Hon. Walter, Jr., Robert Waller, and J. B. Waller, also of one family;

Malcolm M. Boddie, a relative of the McNeills;

S. Pantis McConnell;

Postmaster Hesing and all the other Federal officials.

And a few other gentlemen, to get together and name a candidate for Mayor.

But the matter came to the ears of Chairman Peabody, and with good sense he decided to extend the invitation to a large number of other gentlemen, and to ask them to come together to help the Democratic party with their advice.

The list as finally amended included the following gentlemen:

Harvey T. Weeks, Victor Barrowski, S. A. Adalia Satalecki, Leo Austrian, Charles W. Spaulding, J. V. Clark, A. Mitchell, John J. Philbin, John A. King, Spoor Mackey, Emanuel Mandel, Chas. Peyton, S. P. McConnell, C. H. McCormick, J. C. McFarland, Alexander C. McNeill, Malcolm McNeill, Rivers McNeill, W. T. McLaughlin, Walter C. Newberry, F. B. Peabody, Erskine M. Phelps, J. H. S. Quirk, S. W. Rawson, Frank H. Ray, Thomas S. Robinson, Leo Ernst, John W. Ela, Adolph Kraus, E. F. Lawrence, Joseph F. Leaming, J. Z. Leiter, William T. Baker, A. M. Barnhart, Malcolm M. Boddie, Walter S. Bogle, Lawrence P. Boyle, Michael Brand, Edward O. Brown, William O. Budd, William Barry, George Bullen, F. L. Bull, D. R. Cameron, John C. Carroll, George M. Chandler, Eugene R. Cox, William G. Cummings, Thomas C. Dennehy, W. M. Devine, John W. Doane, Austin J. Doyle, Edward S. Dreyer, Arthur J. Eddy, Thomas H. Smyth, Frank H. Brookman, Frank Seales, Charles H. Schwab, A. B. Seely, A. F. Seeberger, William C. Selpp, John T. Shayne, Fred Siegel, A. G. Slaughter, Byron L. Smith, P. W. Snowhook, Lambert Tree, M. F. Tuley, Michael Ulrich, Charles H. Wacker, H. Waller Jr., Robert A. Waller, John R. Walsh, Charles V. Wohlheuter, Frank Wenter, Barney Weber, Fred H. Wilston, M. Shields, J. G. Garibaldi, Rudolph Braud, William Legner, Edward Uhllein, C. G. Vopicka, Paul O. Stensland, George M. Rogers, B. G. Rosenthal Jr., Edward A. Rosenthal, Harry Rubens, Martin J. Russell, Adlai T. Ewing, Oscar G. Foreman, Adams A. Goodrich, W. C. D. Granlin, Edward E. Gray, S. B. Gregory, A. W. Green,

J. S. Grinnell, S. E. Gross, C. F. Gunther, W. D. Hackney, Washington Hosing, F. G. Hoyne, Horace E. Hurlburt, Jonas Hutchinson, R. W. Hyman Jr., M. J. Kane, Thomas J. Keeley, Thomas Kelly, Charles Kern, M. W. Kerwin, Peter Klobassa, M. M. Kirkman, and Edward P. Dunne.

It was hoped that a majority of these men would attend.

Many of them are solid citizens. Their advice might be good.

But, unfortunately, when the hour for assembling arrived on Tuesday afternoon last there were but few present outside of professional reformers, office-holders and would-be aristocrats.

In calling the meeting to order, Mr. Peabody started out exceedingly well. Among other things he said:

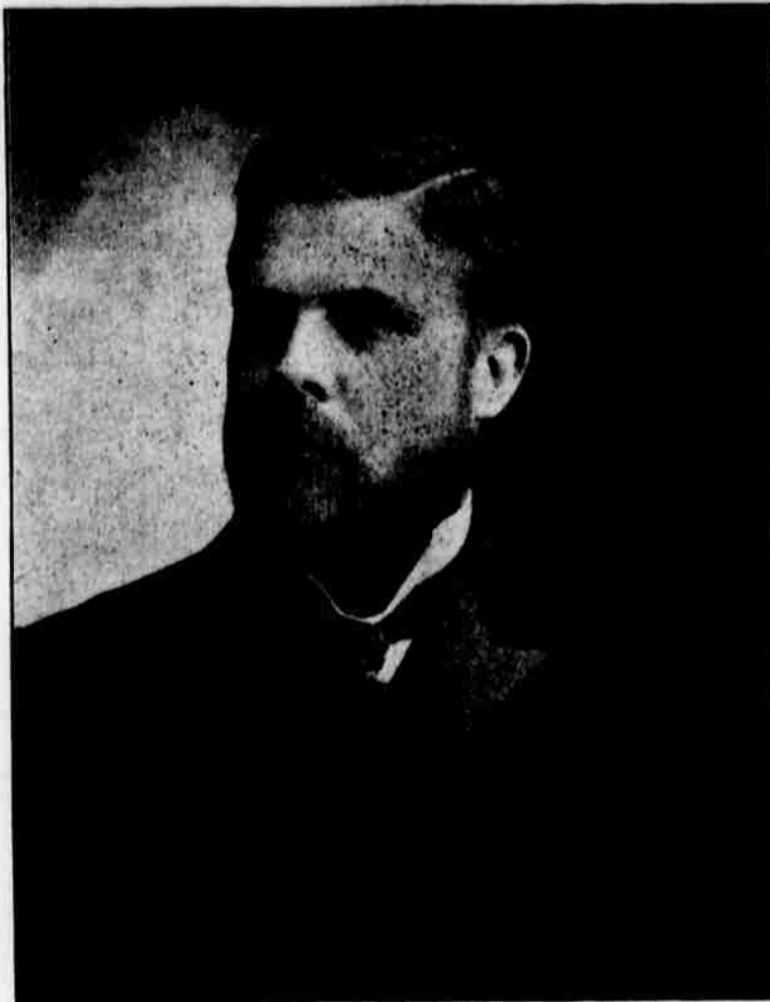
"A large number of our wealthiest Democrats are now working and contributing their time and money towards investigating so-called election frauds and crying loud for pure primaries and honest elections. In passing I wish here to say a word in regard to the present election fraud cases. Do not judge men until they have been proven guilty and do not take for granted that because a partisan Republican grand jury can only find Democrats to indict that these Democrats are necessarily guilty or are the only guilty ones. They may be guilty, but if they are let them be punished, but they are no more guilty than are in another way the jurors who, upon direct presentation of the facts, refused to indict John R. Tanner because, forsooth, he was a Republican and simply had been vilifying a Democrat. No crime in their eyes, but a praiseworthy deed."

He also called attention to the poor state of the party finances, and called upon the leading citizens present to help it out.

He forgot that most of the people before him never contributed anything but wind to the support of the Democratic party, so when Mr. Peabody called attention to the fact that the party was hard up no one responded except Mr. Michael Shields, the well-known confectioner, who handed up \$100 for the cause.

The suggestion of a collection almost caused a panic, but Mr. Peabody had the presence of mind to call upon Postmaster Hesing. In the course of his remarks he said:

"I never knew a time when the Democratic party was honest and went into the canvass with clean hands, and when its methods were honest and honorable, that it did not succeed. This was because the Executive Committee took the people into its confidence, because it appealed to the people, and because what we did was open and above-board. I believe today if this committee will give the assurance to the people of this city that it is honest, that the primary elections shall be conducted honestly and honorably, and he who goes to the polls to vote will have that vote registered, and the people will approve of the action and sanction the nomination made by the convention and ratify such a ticket. But, gentlemen, do not mistake the temper of the people; do not think for one moment that because they were imposed on in the past they will be imposed on again. There is all over the country an awakening; a new era of politicians has arisen; and I shall with joy the fact that I shall be called a politician in the future."



HON. CLAYTON E. CRAFTS, Author of the Police Bill Now Before the Legislature.

Now what on earth did Mr. Hesing mean by this speech?

Surely not all he said.

Why, last summer the Executive Committee called Mr. Hesing and the same crowd of gentlemen in to secure an advance stock of advice, and the whole ticket, including Chairman Peabody, who ran for Sheriff, was beaten by an average majority in Cook County of 15,000 votes.

But two years ago this spring, the great and only Carter H. Harrison was a candidate for Mayor.

He was the people's candidate.

No advisory committee met to put him up.

Mr. Hesing and several of the other hoodlums present at Tuesday's conference opposed Mr. Harrison at the polls.

In fact, Mr. Hesing supported Alderton, the Republican nominee, on the stump.

And if Mr. Hesing's side had won there would not be a Democrat in the city today!

Yet, in spite of this fact, Carter H. Harrison won his election by 21,000 majority.

It would become Mr. Hesing and some other Federal officials in this crisis to be quiet.

There is such a ground swell among Democrats that if too many striking examples of recent bolts are paraded before them, the examples may prove dangerously infectious this spring.

But to return to the meeting.

A committee of thirty-four was appointed to select a city ticket for the Democrats and the meeting adjourned.

The Eagle observes with regret that J. Wings Ela is beginning to regard himself as a great humorist. The bronchial laughter which follows his remarks at club dinners is hurting the man. He gets off jokes. But if Brother Ela is really anxious to trace the historical descent and evolution of what he himself and a few faithful friends in the Civil Service League will believe to their dying day to be humor, he begins his researches at much too modern a date and point. If he seeks to find out when and where were born those new stories that he tells at smokes and authors' readings and dinners, and publishes and republishes in his own books, he has a long task before him; and it is rather late in life for him to take up the work of historical investigation. If, however, a literary remorse impels him to historical research, if he seeks in good earnest the men that have said his good things before him, he should begin with the Assyrian tablets and cylinders and the cuneiform inscriptions. He should familiarize himself with the history and literary or unliterary remains of the Amorites and Amalekites and Monobites and Jebusites and Hitites. He should pay special attention to the Cushites. Thousands and, perhaps, hundreds of thousands of years before Lucretia-Paris had come up out of the mud, kings and emperors and Mard had yawned and longed for death, hearing Brother Ela's stories remorselessly recounted. Ulysses, an old bore and famous after-dinner speaker, told one of Mr. Ela's anecdotes at the court

of good King Priam. Hector, whom Andromache had been nagging that day for a new pallium, was drinking too much, forgot his customary politeness, pronounced the yarn a chestnut—as it was, and from a tree not much junior to the creation of man—and so arose the war between the Trojans and the long-haired Achaeans. Uncle Remus tried to tell one of J. Wings Ela's humorous stories to Uncle Remulus and was justly executed on the spot with a trowel. The halls of Persepolis and Palmyra were deserted on account of these intolerable tales of Ela. The Tower of Babel was built in the vain hope of climbing out from Ela. Nebuchadnezzar spent seven years on a ranch for the sake of shoving the court Jewer that was forever droning Ela. Cain killed Abel for saying after an Ela anecdote: "Oh, give us something fresh." The gigantic beasts and dragons of the pre-historic world exterminated themselves in the irritation produced by the Elaesque "humor." New languages were invented by sufferers anxious to find a medium of communication to which the sportiveness of Ela was unknown. The attempt was fruitless. Death and Ela are found in every language and in every clime. Alkie by the Christian, the pagan and the philosopher, by the Jew and the Gentle, by bond and free, death is accepted with composure and tranquility. If it has no other merit, at least it relieves us of the anecdotes of M. Ela.

Town politics in Hyde Park on the Republican side of the fence is growing livelier than usual owing to the disposition to turn down T. B. Skeeles, the Assessor, who comes from the State street side of the Thirty-second Ward, is serving his first term, and is a candidate for re-election. It is charged that Mr. Skeeles, after his election, acquired the notion that he was "the whole thing" himself and refused to recognize the leading Republicans of the ward, who had thrown the nomination to him. Mr. Skeeles is perfectly willing to recognize them now, but they have not yet shown any desire to "make up," owing to this condition of things a number of other candidates have sprung up, including George Morgan, A. B. Hathaway, and a Hiveryman named Cobb. Mr. Morgan is a respectable citizen of the ward who stands well with the politicians because of his ability as a hustler and with the people generally, and he is said to be away in the lead for the prize.

No opposition has developed so far to the renomination of Collector Hamberg of the Thirty-third Ward, in which case the supervisors and clerkship will go to the Thirty-fourth Ward.

A mass meeting of citizens from the south end of the Thirty-second Ward was held at No. 109 53d street for the purpose of endorsing an Aldermanic candidate to succeed William R. Kerr. William E. Kent, who was endorsed the night previous by the Kenwood Republicans, received additional support at the hands of the meeting. Mr. Kent is an able and active young man, and is well thought of by the leading Republicans of the ward.

He is a large property-owner and taxpayer in the Thirty-second Ward. Mr. Kent is a nephew of Sidney Kent, and has a large and intimate acquaintance in Chicago.

Commissioner Badenoch, while declaring that his duties as an election commissioner precluded his taking a hand in ward affairs, said about the aldermanic situation in the Eleventh Ward:

"We have hosts of good men over there and among them I do not know of a better man than W. H. Alsip. He is a scholar and a gentleman and a typical representative of the best type of citizenship. As I understand Alderman Kent declines a renomination, I certainly hope Mr. Alsip can be induced to stand."

David Becker, of Argyle Park, is favorably spoken of as an aldermanic candidate from the Twenty-fifth Ward. Lloyd J. Smith, vice chairman of the Republican Executive Committee, is pushing the claims of Fred Tucker for Lake View Assessor.

It was said yesterday about the City Hall by several West Division Aldermen that Adam Wolf will be tendered the Republican nomination for West Town Assessor. Mr. Wolf is a candidate for City Treasurer, and his friends say prefers to make the race for that place on the ticket.

Augustus E. Eddy is spoken of as a Republican candidate for Alderman from the Second Ward.

William C. Amos, of the Thirty-second Ward, has announced himself a candidate for Alderman.

At a meeting held in Judge Porter's Hall, 53d street, near Lake avenue, William C. Amos was endorsed for Alderman in the Thirty-second Ward. Representatives from the Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Twelfth, Nineteenth, Twentieth and Twenty-sixth Precincts were present, and among the 200 who were in the hall were: Paul Cornell, Senator Mitchell, Judge Porter, George R. Warner, William Hamilton, John Cornell, Charles Pollock, Chas. F. Uhrdich, Charles Pfantz and Dr. Higley. Judge A. R. Porter presided.

A meeting was held at Cottage Grove avenue and 43d street, at which John Cheshire, of the Thirty-second Ward, was endorsed for the Republican nomination for Hyde Park Assessor. Those present represented voters from the Twenty-fourth, Fourteenth, Eighteenth, Twenty-third and Seventh Precincts. Joseph Smith presided, and P. Shortall acted as Secretary. Among those who endorsed Mr. Cheshire were T. H. Gurman, William Williams, F. Samuels, W. Hylnak, C. M. Cook, F. H. Wolford, M. Garrett, J. Murphy, Ed Hunt and John McFee.

Chris Strassheim, the popular North Side, is almost certain to be the Republican nominee for City Treasurer.

Hon. and Mrs. Jas. R. B. Van Cleave have our congratulations on the arrival of Mr. Bruce Van Cleave. Long may he live!

Legislative Bureau of The Chicago Eagle, Springfield, Ill., Feb. 6.—Republicans in the House made a dash for economy this morning, but abandoned the line of attack before the day was over. The party's steering committee had held a meeting and decided upon retrenchment on the appropriation bills. The militia bill was the first point of attack. The steering committee decided to make a contest on the amounts asked for by the adjutant general's department, and when the House and Senate bills, which are identical, came up in order they were referred to the Committee on Appropriations. The bills contained items for over \$300,000 to cover the expenses of the militia during the strike, \$30,000 for expenses up to July 1 and \$80,000 for equipment.

Several of the Republican members made remarks about the unusual amounts asked for and indicated that they were opposed to the bill in its present form and without reduction of the amounts suggested, but finally the whole committee voted to report the bill to the House with the recommendation that it pass. Adj. Gen. Orendorf, Assistant Adj. Gen. Hugh Bayle and Capt. Campbell were present and gave the necessary information to satisfy the members that the amounts were justified by the conditions.

It is not believed from this initial movement that the Republicans will make much headway in cutting down the expenditures. The bills for the State institutions can hardly be cut down, and the only appropriation which may be considered partisan is that proposed for the expenses of the commission of statutory revision. The work of the committee, appointed by a Democratic Legislature, has been well done in the judgment of members on both sides of the Assembly, but Republican leaders are claiming that the commission was appointed two years ago by snap judgment, and that it is not entitled to the indorsement of a Republican House.

Ex-Congressman George E. Adams arrived this afternoon in the interest of the civil service reform bill. He announced to the members that two employers of prominent citizens of Chicago would be in the city to-morrow and would appear before the committees of the Senate and House having charge of the bill.

Fred Hill, public librarian of Chicago, is here to get legislation to enable the library to levy a tax sufficient to maintain the new building on Michigan avenue. At present the tax is only 1/2 mill and Mr. Hill wants it increased to 1 mill, which will furnish an ample amount for the purpose. He has talked with a number of members and feels encouraged to believe that a bill such as he proposes will be passed.

The Senate Committee on Elections to-day held its first meeting, at which the contest of Wilson against McKinlay was considered. After a good deal of debate it was decided that the parties in interest should have all of their evidence ready two weeks from to-day.

Senator Littler offered a joint resolution in the Senate to-day authorizing the appointment of a committee to go to Chicago and question the officers of the Illinois Central Railroad under

## STILL STRIVING FOR TIME.

**The Solons at Springfield Are Having a Hard Time Keeping Behind the Record.**

**Mr. Crafts, of Cook County, Introduces a Strong Measure for Reorganizing Chicago Police.**

**Mr. Cody, of Chicago, Is After the Telephone Monopoly, and Will Down It.**

**The Capital Full of Would-Be Reformers from the Various Chicago Lunch Clubs.**

**General Gossip from the City of Long Distances and Makers and Unmakers of Corporations.**

He wants to find out what arrangements the railroad company makes with its 2,000 miles of branch lines and whether receipts from these branch lines are included in the 7 per cent. levy on the gross earnings, as provided for in the charter. Senator Littler wanted the resolution acted upon immediately, but there were objections, and it went over under the rules. Senator Littler also introduced a bill prohibiting telegraph companies from collecting a charge for delivery service inside of corporate limits. In Springfield they charge 10 cents where the delivery is over a mile.

Representative Crafts, of Cook County, introduced in the House a bill, the object of which is to remove the police from politics. It provides for the appointment of three police commissioners in each city and village having a population exceeding 10,000 inhabitants. This is the bill prepared by the State convention of superintendents of police.

The commissioners are to be appointed by a majority of the Judges of the Circuit, Superior, County and Probate Courts in the county in which the city is situated. It is provided that the appointments shall be so made that no two commissioners shall belong to the same political party, "and so that at all times one of said commissioners shall be nonpartisan in politics." The first commissioners are to be appointed for one, two and three years, and thereafter the term of office of each commissioner will be three years, one to be appointed every year.

Every such board of police commissioners is invested with police powers, and may, in case of riot or disturbance of the peace, or when the same is threatened, summon all good citizens to aid in the suppression of the same. Such board shall also have power to compel witnesses to attend and testify before it upon all matters connected with the operation of this act.

The board shall have the power to appoint all members of the police department, and no person shall be so appointed without having first passed a satisfactory examination as to his mental and physical qualifications. No member of the police department shall be discharged without a fair trial and the Circuit Judge may review the finding of the board. No member of the police department shall solicit, receive or pay any assessment for political purposes. No applicant for appointment on the police department shall, directly or indirectly, pay or promise to pay any money or other valuable thing for such appointment. No member of the department shall engage in active politics. Recommendations from any office of any other department of the city or village are prohibited.

In cities of 100,000 or more the commissioners shall receive \$3,000 per annum, and the members of the police department shall not less than the following: Superintendent of police, \$5,500; assistant superintendent of police, \$3,000; secretary of police, \$2,000; inspectors of police, \$2,500; captains, \$2,000; lieutenants, \$1,500; sergeants, \$1,200; patrolmen of first class, \$1,000; patrolmen of second class, \$720. In all other cities the salaries of commissioners are to be fixed by the Common Council and the compensation of officers shall not be less than the following

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