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Chairman Barnett's Address.

"I am glad to see present so many of you who were at the convention in Indianapolis a year ago. I think the most of you will remember that we had quite a harmonious convention and that the prospects of the candidates nominated there seemed very favorable. The members of the central committee will remember the enthusiastic committee meeting held immediately at the close of the convention, at which the candidates were present. At this meeting the campaign was outlined, ways were devised for a campaign fund and the county organization was perfected and put in running order. During the campaign 63 per cent of the fund was paid out for campaign purposes and after the election 37 per cent was returned to those who had subscribed it. Immediately after the election a statement was prepared and sent to each member of the central committee, showing how the funds had been used and the amount returned.

"Most of you know the position the headquarters took in regard to the work of the campaign. The most of this work fell upon the secretary, Mr. Valentine. Were I likely to be connected in any way with the campaigns of the future in Red Willow county, I would always be glad to have Mr. Valentine as secretary. He is a man of lots of ability, great activity and fertility of thought. He is capable of putting things into execution where I would not even think of them. He was exceptionally honest and fair all through the campaign, has the faculty of getting others to work, and with the ability and energy with which he handled the campaign last year the results should have been better. Many a night Mr. Valentine and I worked until 12 or 1 o'clock, with from two to six to assist us, in getting out campaign matter and in corresponding with the state central committee. Every committeeman was frequently written to and the condition of the campaign and the outlook for the ticket in different parts of the county were laid before them and the candidates.

"The committeemen as a whole were very willing to do all the routine work, including work at the poles on election day and throughout their precincts, for which there was no remuneration whatever more than to reimburse them for money actually paid out. They refused to take anything for their services claiming they were willing to make such sacrifices for the party and the candidates. On behalf of the headquarters I wish to say their work was much appreciated and I feel under obligations to many of them for courtesies shown me. As in the instance of the secretary, their efforts should have been rewarded with better results.

"But it is of the candidates and the results that I wish to say a few words. All the candidates were good men. None of them were outclassed by their opponents for the offices for which they were running. As was stated in the campaign, our candidates were morally as good as theirs. Only one word in regard to the candidates on the Populist ticket: not during all the campaign did one word come from the headquarters against any of their candidates. Personally their whole ticket commanded my respect, but our ticket was fully as good, and the other fellows and the lady were in the wrong party for us. I only have time to take up one or two of our candidates. Our candidate for treasurer was well located geographically, and as he was the only candidate for that office at the time of the convention, no voter, faction, or locality could have been embittered at his nomination. Long before the time of the convention he was talked of by prominent Republicans in all parts of the county, and to my knowledge he went to many of the leaders in the party and discussed his candidacy.

"I do not fear being contradicted when I say he got assurance from all of them that he was a satisfactory candidate, and in almost every instance their support was pledged him. As chairman of the central committee I had frequent talks with Mr. Thompson and some of them were in a confidential way to quite an extent, and I want to say to you, gentlemen, to use an expression of the greatest writer the world has yet known, no man on the ticket, or on any of the tickets, or among us, "possesses more of that ancient Roman honor" than he who was our candidate for county treasurer. You know him, a man well along in life, of meagre financial means, he went out before the convention and ascertained in a modest way what was thought of his candidacy. After he was nominated he made a thorough canvass of every precinct in the county, putting in about all his time, and with all true republicans he made a favorable impression and made votes for the party and himself. From a financial standpoint he could ill afford to take this time from his cares and work at home, but he had been nominated by the Republican convention and in loyalty to it he felt it his duty to do all he could.

"Let me leave this candidate a minute to say a word about the candidate for sheriff. The candidate for sheriff was also well located geographically, and as there was no candidate for any other office prominently before the convention from the east central part of the county his location should have been counted as favorable. There were other candidates for this office, but their friends in

their localities expressed fears that they did not possess strength enough to be elected if nominated.

"In my judgment there was nothing done at or before the convention to secure the nomination of our candidate for sheriff that should have caused more than temporary disappointment, and that should have all been laid aside long before the election. I was not much acquainted with Mr. McCool before his nomination, but through the campaign I came in contact with him frequently. His enemies will have to admit he was an excellent campaigner, and I do not know of a more honest, square, straightforward worker than he showed himself to be last fall. He had been sheriff of this county once, and I believe every Republican who voted against him will admit to himself if not to you and me—that he would have filled the office as good as his opponent possibly can.

"Gentlemen, these remarks express my honest opinion of the candidates on our ticket last fall. Six weeks before the election it became apparent to the headquarters that there was being some objection raised against the candidate for sheriff. An occasional rumor was heard of an effort in Willow Grove precinct to beat this candidate, and later on these rumors were connected with reports that an organized effort was on foot that would be kept quiet until election time, and then it would be sprung and surely defeat him. Prominent Republicans, it was stated, were connected with this move—some who had personally pledged him their support, and it was seen by the headquarters about one week before the election that the result of this effort were likely to lose this candidate 100 votes in Willow Grove precinct. The results of this plan to defeat the candidate for sheriff would crop out in various ways. One Republican here said, "If we elect McCool he will appoint a Catholic deputy," and he was answered by saying that was just what the Populist candidate did his first term. One Russian asked me if I was going to vote the whole Republican ticket and I said I was. He said he was all but the candidate for sheriff, and when I asked him why he did not vote for him he said or one of the Republican leaders "say not." Another Republican said he would vote against the candidate for sheriff because the Catholics in McCool were going to vote for him, although he admitted they all voted for his opponent two years before.

"Along before the convention it was known by the headquarters that influences from outside the county were being used to elect the Populist candidate for treasurer. Prominent Republicans who had been favorable to the Republican nominee were seen to lose interest in his election, and it was known that it was desirable to some corporation interests that the incumbent of the county treasurer's office be reelected, and that brings to mind a remark during the campaign of a prominent Republican who said not many understood the intricacies of corporation politics; and right here let me say that I was forcibly reminded several times during the campaign of their ways, and they are tough.

"Another thing sprang up against the candidate for treasurer, and that was the statement that certain religious organizations would lose by the treasury incumbent being defeated and moving away from town. And then sprang up "Methodist Republicans," and as this sentiment enlarged it spread to others and finally we had what were facetiously called "Methodist-Congregational Republicans." Let me say right here to my Republican friends, don't you ever think you can get to heaven by going back on the Republican party. Don't you ever think you will get a white robe and a harp, or even see the pearly gates, by claiming to be a Republican and voting against a man like Thompson. No church or any other organization makes or should make such demands of a voter that it is necessary for him to go back on his political party.

"The opposition of last year came from within the party rather than from the Populists, and I wonder how long the country precincts, the committeemen for instance, will do the routine work of the party, when the ticket, or at least the candidates for the best offices, is defeated every time, first in one town precinct and then in another. We had enough votes in our party to elect our candidates, but Republican history in Red Willow county seemed bound to repeat itself.

"The headquarters knew of these deals and some pressure was brought to bear to head them off, but some of the leaders were in them and others would not do anything against them. Thus our candidates were defeated. While I lay the blame to Willow Grove precinct for the result, last year, the official vote of the county for a number of years back will show that some other precincts have vexed the central committee just as much in the past as this did last year. And thus, I say, have the Republican candidates been defeated, and had Shakespeare lived in Red Willow county, instead of writing the few lines about the poor player, I think he would have said, "Like the poor candidate, who struts his hour before election and then is seen no more."

"Compared to these conditions in our county, what a contrast are the stirring events of the national administration. It makes me sick to think that through

such factions and work in our party in this state, and the dishonesty of some of our state officials, we are placed in the column for Bryanism and the free silver craze. While we have enough Republican votes we continue to send Populist representatives to the legislature, and help to elect Populist state officers. Thus we help the "Pops" while our brave boys jumped at the opportunity to do deeds of heroism for humanity, and today many of them are in the grasp of the yellow fever on the hills of Santiago, while others—some from our own town—are on the other side of the world in the strange tropical country of the Philippines.

"How we realize the difference between the two presidential candidates of two years ago when we think of the brilliant executive ability of President McKinley and the success that has attended his management of the war; and when, at the close of his second term, he will take his place with Washington and Lincoln, and at the next World's Fair, by the side of the Ohio building, on the monument with the statues of Garfield and the other four prominent and illustrious sons of that state will be the figure of Wm. McKinley, while overhead will be the Goddess of Liberty with the inscription underneath, "These Are My Jewels."

"Being the chairman of the central committee seems like being in partnership with the candidates, and going back on a partner in a political way is just the same to me as going back on a business partner. Along with the leaders in the party the committeemen pledge their support to the ticket, and when I look back at the frequency with which the candidates have been defeated by factional strife and dissensions in our own party, one year in one precinct and the next in another, to continue in this position makes it too risky for a man who hopes for heaven."

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A Frightful Accident.

H. M. Clute was killed at his home ten miles southwest of the city last Saturday morning about 9 o'clock by being run over by a heavy threshing machine.

Mr. Clute had gone to the shed with his brother-in-law, C. H. Mudge, to take the machine out for the day's work. The machine had been pulled into the shed with the back end facing outside. Mr. Clute took his heavy gray team of horses and double-trees and hitched on to the end of the separator to pull it out backwards while Mr. Mudge steered with the tongue at the other end. The team evidently got frightened at the rattling of the chains and broke away from Mr. Clute, pulling him down under the wheels and started to run. The wheels of the seven ton machine passed over Mr. Clute's left leg and diagonally across his breast. The horses broke the double-trees and got away.

Mr. Mudge in the meanwhile, seeing the inevitable accident and thinking the machine would run across the prostrate man's neck, exerted a phenomenal strength to turn the machine, so it would not run over Clute. In the effort he braced himself with one foot against a stump and in trying to pull the oak tongue, 35 inches, broke the tongue square off and tore the stump off near the ground. His efforts were, however, futile, and the wheels passed completely over Mr. Clute's leg and breast as stated.

No bones were broken and he was conscious until a few moments before death. A piece of the machinery pierced his breast causing internal bleeding.

Mr. Clute was picked up and taken into the house and Dr. McGirr of Ellis, summoned. Mr. Clute was still alive when Dr. McGirr arrived, but it was evident his injuries were fatal. Dr. McGirr sent for Dr. A. C. Bradley of this city, for consultation. Dr. Bradley responded promptly, but Mr. Clute was dead before he reached there.

The deceased was well known in this city and county as one of the most esteemed farmers and upright men of the community. He was 43 years of age. His wife, daughter of W. E. Mudge, and one child, survive him. He was a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge of Ellis.

The funeral took place from his late home Sunday afternoon.—Beatrice Express.

"Dead Folks Tell no Tales."

Mrs. Ida Clyde commenced proceedings in divorce this week, against her husband, Allen C. Clyde. The petition sets forth allegations that it would be entirely improper for a reputable paper to publish. But among the allegations are, "extreme cruelty, profane and indecent language, being lewd, unchaste, licentious, habitual drunkard," etc. The complainant sets forth that the defendant threatened her life, encouraging her with the statement that "dead folks tell no tales," and such cheerful language.

The officers have not been able to make personal service on the defendant, who has either left the city or is in hiding.

The defendant has been enjoined from disposing of his large property interests, during the pendency of this case.

The plaintiff is quite ill as an alleged result of her short acquaintance and residence with the defendant.

Principal Franklin of the West ward school has resigned and Assistant Principal G. H. Thomas of the East ward school has asked to be released. Miss Leonard of Lincoln is thought of for the principalship of the West ward. Mr. Thomas has not been relieved. These resignations at the late hour have embarrassed the board somewhat.

Miss Ethel Barnett will leave for Omaha, Saturday morning on 2, to attend school in a convent in that city.

Mrs. John Bramble and the children came down from Elsie last Saturday, and are visiting friends.

Mesdames Tate, Cornutt and others were down from Culbertson, yesterday, on business.

The foot-race, Tuesday, between Collicutt and Shortcut, was won by Collicutt.

Mrs. J. E. Kelley is entertaining her sister, Mrs. Keefley, and three children.

Miss Florence Purvis returned from Denver, today.

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