

Dwight Star and Herald.

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Kimball Pianos AND Organs

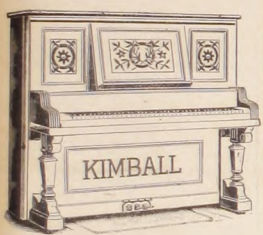
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Picnic Postponed.

On account of the Modern Woodmen Picnic was postponed from Friday of this week, until Thursday of next week, Sept. 13. It is hoped that the weather will then be good and everybody will come. The arrangements will be the same.

MEMBER COMMITTEE.

The Eleventh District Fight.

The following communication was published in the Chicago Tribune of Tuesday of this week, and is fair, and coming from a La Salle county man and friend of Henry Mayo, places his position in rather a bad light. Probably the best point made in the communication is the fact that the unit rule was used in La Salle county to try to break the unit rule in Livingston county. There was certainly not much consistency in it. At this time the communication cannot help to be of interest to democrats and republicans alike, as the same thing is liable to occur in either party if not thoroughly understood now.

OTTAWA, Ill., Sept. 3. (Editor of the Tribune.)—The so-called "unit rule" of political action originated in the time-honored practice of instructing delegates to political conventions how to represent the constituencies from which they derived their powers. This rule has always been based on "majority rule" in politics, as in every other line of social action.

To say there is no such thing as unit rule is error. To say that the instructions of one convention to its delegates entering into the composition of another convention are not binding is a fallacy. How far binding is a question.

The unit rule was employed by every county in the convention that nominated the lamented Fullerton, candidate for Congress in this district, at Streator July 19, 1894.

One hundred and forty-one times every vote of La Salle county was cast by Capt. Mayo as chairman, although it was said a few dissentients expressed a wish to be released from instructions, but did not care to make a fight for release before the convention. Every vote of Bureau county was cast for Gen. Henderson. Every vote of Livingston went to C. C. Strawn. At the close the unit rule was adopted by the Woodford County delegates. Their vote was cast by their Chairman for Capt. Fullerton, and he was nominated.

When should the unit rule cease to be binding? Whenever a lock occurs in the proceedings of a deliberative body, where employed so that it is apparent a result cannot be attained until the units are dissolved.

How should they be dissolved? By a rule of the body which is proper to all its constituents, simply defining the manner in which the votes of the several constituencies must be cast, this clearly being within the power of every deliberative assemblage.

This was the course pursued in the national convention of 1876 for the release of a minority of the Pennsylvania delegation from the instructions of their State convention to vote for Gen. Grant.

A different method was adopted at Chicago in 1880—namely: the admission of delegates from Congressional districts direct, some of whom had been very informally appointed in defiance of the State conventions, which heretofore had always passed upon the delegations to national conventions.

As a matter of fact the unit rule is yet in vogue, notwithstanding the precedents here cited, for the reason that it has never been barred by competent authority from any party convention beneath the national one.

If there is wrong in the unit rule, that wrong lies in the sentiment which disregards the rights of minorities at the primaries and in the county conventions whence emanate the delegations to higher conventions.

In the La Salle county convention held at Ottawa July 17 to appoint delegates to the first Congressional convention of the Eleventh District were forty persons who favored the candidacy of O. B. Ryan of Streator and thirty persons who favored Archibald Means of Peru for Congress.

In the proceedings, however, not the slightest attention was paid to such preferences except to see that they got not the slightest representation in the Congressional convention.

In the county convention held at Ottawa Aug. 28 to select delegates to the second Congressional convention were forty-seven men who favored the nomination of Gen. Henderson. In the proceedings of the county convention no attention was paid to these men except to shut them out of the Congressional convention because they were a minority and had no right to be represented other than through the majority.

In each convention of this county the delegations to the Congressional convention was made a unit so far as human foresight could make it, by selection, and then a seal was set upon the selection by a resolution of instructions.

The same course was pursued in Bureau County, and hence it was that the votes of these counties were cast as units which had been created by their leaders, respectively, to be used in the Congressional convention. How could it have been otherwise? Answer: by not having formed the units in county conventions.

In the Streator convention of the 30th ult. it was a deplorable error of the leaders of the majority that they did not pass a rule—the moment the temporary organization was affected—providing for the manner of voting on all questions, including reports on credentials and permanent organization. Had that course been pursued—Strawn, Bovard, and Walter could have been lawfully made delegates from Livingston, and the non-will of Templeton of Bureau would not have been made master of the convention. As was done, or attempted to be done, Chairman Templeton correctly ruled all motions involving the right to vote with the act of voting out of order.

As to the attempt of the majority of the Livingston delegation to employ the unit rule under instructions from their County Central committee, it can be said that their rests on the same basis as the right to have seats in the convention these alleged rights having emanated from the same source.

The excellent suggestions of the Tribune, of the 2nd inst. for township representation to Congressional conventions, if adopted, will eliminate the controversy over the unit rule and solve the problem of true representation to the entire satisfaction of all who care for the rights of minorities and want them counted in and not counted out of the representation of Republican voters in Republican conventions.

At any rate, it will not do henceforth for the Republicans of one county to obtain in convention a unit rule to be used for the purpose of destroying a like rule of another county in a higher convention.

C. D. TRIMBLE.

What Major Bradbury Believes.

We are to-day privileged in getting an excerpt from a private letter written to a friend by our former townsman, W. H. Bradbury.

Major Bradbury was at one time a prominent figure in Dwight and when he left to take a position in the office of the Santa Fe R. R., at Topeka, Kansas, his leaving was regretted by a large circle of friends who bear him in kindly memory and make his many returns to Dwight and Pontiac, in a visiting way, as pleasant as possible.

"We are certainly experiencing hard times with but little prospect of relief. Prof. Cooley reviews the strikes and senseless Coxeyism in a very concise and able manner. Gov. Altgeld's reply is retaliatory and pointed, but not convincing.

"Do workmen and employes get their share of the prosperity of the country? If not, why not? How much real prosperity has there been recently? How many are there who will not work more than enough for a bare existence—who never save a cent even in good times, and become dependent?"

"Is it the function of Government to find work for the unemployed? I think not. The Government can only throw over them its aegis of equal protection.

"Are such people ready for paternalism? No—they will take aid, but not yield the necessary obedience. (Vide, Town of Pullman where the experiment failed.)

"I think that poverty and want of work should be cared for in the county or locality where it originates and that large corporations employing many men and subject to stoppages should be discouraged.

"Our nation has been in existence only 120 years, yet we have all the economic difficulties, and all the social and moral diseases and vices of a dense population and an old civilization. Our new and extensive territory, like the clean leaves of a boy's copy book, once afforded space for development and opportunities for improvement and profit but the book already contains many blots and blunders and we are now on the last page. We can amend things a little, though I don't see any show for a radical cure or preventive any more than for the measles, whooping-cough, etc. The reform must begin in each individual of our human race, most of whom are too weak, too improvident, self-indulgent and vicious ever to make the effort.

"The rude valor and stoical endurance of the aboriginal Indian were attended by treacherous conduct and cruel practices; and his wild country with all its beauty and grandeur was the home of the cactus and many pernicious and poisonous plants. The white man brought with him all the vices of civilization, just as with the plow and the grasses came also the insidious plantain, the pestilent cocklebur and the unsightly thistle."

Change in Through Mail Service.

The Indiana, Illinois and Iowa has closed a contract with the government for handling the fast transcontinental mails from South Bend, Ind., to Streator, Ill. These mails have come via Chicago, but the new route will decrease the through time by nearly two hours, avoiding the old transfer and other delays. The contract will be in operation in a few days, when the '31' is completed to South Bend. In connection with the mail contract the '31' will run a double daily passenger service over its lines.

Sacred Concert.

A concert of sacred music will be given in the Congregational church Sunday evening. Solos will be rendered by Mesdames Howlett and Springer, and Messrs. Power and Uphut. Also many choice selections will be given by the choir, assisted by the soloists. The pastor will deliver a short address on music as a spiritual power.

Sate Bills.

There is no printing office in the county better equipped to do Auction Bills on short notice and satisfactory than the STAR AND HERALD, GARDNER TRIBUNE and BRACEVILLE TRIBUNE office. We are prepared at all times to execute this work, and orders can be left at this office in Dwight, Bert Strahl, in Gardner, at his barber shop, or with T. T. Smith, in Braceville. Prices reasonable for best work.

\$111 Per Acre.

R. H. Gregg sold his farm of thirty-six acres this week through Chas. L. Romberg, \$111 per acre. Last week one of the Pontiac papers did some bragging about the high price of land near there, but this is the highest yet paid for farming land. Dr. Palm was the purchaser.

Nice eight room dwelling for rent cheap to right party. Ketchum & Smith.

Quiet Wedding.

There was a quiet wedding celebrated at the residence of Hon. O. W. Pollard Thursday morning about 6 o'clock. The contracting parties were Miss Artie F. Pollard and Mr. W. N. Fisher, of Attleboro, Mass. The ceremony was performed by Rev. C. W. Ayling. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher left on the Hummer for Washington. After their return they will reside in Massachusetts at the home of Mr. Fisher.

Everyone in Dwight will extend their kindest wishes for the future of the parties.

Cyclone.

The north end of Goodfarm township had a cyclone last Monday, which did considerable damage. We understand that young Fred Burkhardt was the principal sufferer, losing a barn, corner and granary, a horse, and some chickens. Fred says there's no use crying over spilled milk, but it comes pretty tough just the same. Fred is all right and will get there just the same.

Unfortunate Accident.

Fred Camp, an employee of Spencer's factory, had the misfortune to have the thumb and two fingers of his left hand sawed off while operating a buzz-saw, Monday. The wounds were dressed and Mr. Camp is getting along as well as can be expected.

Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War!

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