

KING COUNTY COLORED REPUBLICAN CLUB

Without fear of successful contradiction this is the strongest political organization west of the Mississippi River, and it is so because of the fact that for the past fifteen years it has held regular monthly meetings, with its executive committee meeting in the interim. Its first president was Andrew R. Black, its second, Dr. Felix B. Cooper, its third, Clarence R. Anderson, and its fourth, Horace R. Cayton, Sr., each being elected and re-elected. In all the campaigns since its organization both the club and its respective members have been active in the support of the Republican tickets, never one time wavering in its loyalty or sulking in their tent over the party nominees. If the club did not take well to the candidacy of some aspirant it made its fight on such an one in the primary election, but whether successful or otherwise, the primary results wiped the slate clean and an enemy was supported as loyally as a friend. The club leaders realize that the government is best aided in its onward march by partisan fidelity, and it further realizes that, if its membership shares in the political spoils of the state and county it must, at all times and under all circumstances, help to keep the party banner from never touching the ground. An independent in politics flourishes for a day, but is soon ripe and just as soon rotten. My party first, right or wrong, my party first is a motto, which all partisans should not only paste in their hats, but go a step further, and paste in their minds. It's much easier to get rid of a bad partisan than it is to build up a new party after each election, which would have to be done if the party nominees were defeated because one or more are objectionable to a sufficient number to join with an opposite party in defeating the entire ticket. Having lived up to this principle since coming into existence the club now enjoys a state-wide reputation and is taken into conference with the other organization of the Republican party and, to an extent, shares in the party emoluments.

Despite the fact that it is only backed by a population of about 3,500, yet from the membership of the club with its endorsement the following persons are drawing regular salaries from the United States government, the state government and the King county government:

John M. Green, U. S. marshal; John Williams, guard; George Moore, clerk in the state license department; Horace R. Cayton, Jr., deputy sheriff King county; Al Hall, deputy county assessor; Madge R. Cayton, extra clerk, county treasury; eight caretakers in the county city buildings and two janitors in the school district. In addition to this roster of employees during the sitting of the last legislature seven members of the club were given work in the care and keeping of the legislative halls. One of three caretakers has just been named for the Temple of Justice at Olympia. Summing up the whole, in dollars and cents, the club members draw over \$26,000 annually, which is not to be sneezed at and it is all due to the untiring work of the club leaders.

The official roster of the club is as follows:

Horace R. Cayton, Sr., president; N. J. Graffel, vice president; Clarence R. Anderson, secretary; George H. Watkins, treasurer. The executive committee is as follows: N. J. Graffel, chairman; Horace R. Cayton, Sr., Clarence R. Anderson, John M. Green, E. R. Chainey, W. H. Wilson, A. R. Bonner, George H. Watkins and William Obey.

It was B. F. Tutt, now deceased, who first conceived

the idea of launching such a Republican organization, and it was the wise counsel of Andrew R. Black, its first president, that saved it from going on the rocks, as was common to such organizations. Mr. Black, too, has long since gone to his Great Reward, but his good works live on. Dr. David T. Cardwell, the first secretary, was not only efficient, but worked well with the official family of the club and played his part in laying for it, a permanent foundation. He is now in Gary, Indiana, and is just as active there in a like club as he was in Seattle. He was followed in that official position by Clarence R. Anderson, who gave to the club its most efficient record, which is still a pleasure to look over. Mr. Anderson was subsequently elected president and in that capacity he did much constructive work. Dr. Felix B. Cooper was elected president just as long as he would accept it and under his administrations the club flourished like a green bay tree. He had as one of his strong right hand bowlers Dr. W. D. Carter, who now resides in Pasadena, California. John M. Green, who has been a member of the executive committee for a great many years, and in the capacity of lookout man for the club, has succeeded in placing a number of members and well wishers in lucrative positions, both in and out of political circles. George H. Watkins, E. R. Chainey, W. H. Banks, A. R. Bonner and William Obey have all been active and constructive members both of the body and the executive committee. In view of the fact that W. H. Wilson is the publisher of The Enterprise and has not been parsimonious with his newspaper space, thereby giving to the club considerable publicity, he too has been a useful adjunct to the whole. Taking it all in all it required the combined work of all herein mentioned to give to this latter day generation a strong and effective political organization, which will grow stronger as the years go by. While the Rev. J. Sterling Moore has not been active in the workings of the Club, yet he has made it possible for it to get before his congregations on momentous occasions, which resulted in its upbuilding and for his kindly interest in the club, of which he is a bona fide member, the members are very grateful.

COLORED WOMEN'S REPUBLICAN CLUB

The women of the city and county within the present year have perfected a strong partisan organization, which is already doing much effective work in the way of spreading Republican propaganda. The organization has grown by leaps and bounds since it first set its sails to the breeze and it promises to be no less effective than the King County Colored Republican Club, and that, too, in the very near future. While the two clubs are absolutely independent of each other, yet they have a well defined and understood working agreement and the women do not hesitate to announce, "we accept the leadership of the men," and the men in turn do not hesitate to say, "that on all important issues the women will be taken into consultation and share and share alike in the settlement of the same." Mrs. A. R. Bonner, the president, is quite a drawing card. Mrs. Hall is an efficient secretary, which means that the club will always know exactly what it's all about and when it happened. The official roster of the club is Mrs. Clara E. Bonner, president; Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, vice president; Mrs. Ophelia E. Hall, secretary; Mrs. Ora E. Brooks, treasurer; Mrs. W. H. Banks, Mrs. May Chainey and Mrs. Corine Green with the officers constitute the executive committee.