

The Oregonian

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Portland, Monday, Sept. 16, 1912.

WATCHMAN, WHAT OF THE NIGHT?

The Oregonian has observed that the scum of the new political movement in Washington swiftly and unerringly rose to the surface in the recent boiling commotion at the soap-box primary.

Mr. Taft might have fancied himself a part of this calm, untroubled village life except for the crowds that awaited his every appearance and the obtrusion of important messages of state that could not wait.

Great as is the honor of being President of the United States, the rewards of a big role in life, it may safely be set down that any envy the villagers felt of Mr. Taft and his big part was returned with interest by the President.

The selection of this amazing bunch of demagogues, trimmers, political scoundrels and whatnots is a thing of which the management of the Oregonian is proud. It is a thing that could not be forecasted.

The Oregonian is prepared to believe that the judgment of the North Yakima paper as to some members of this newest and most heterogeneous, happy family is harsh, but as to others it is as gentle as the dew of heaven in contrast with the real merits of the situation.

The underlying difficulty with the Progressive party is that it is made up of conflicting and inharmonious elements, united only in the common ground of Mr. Roosevelt's candidacy.

The Oregonian is willing to concede that the fourth group is the most numerous of all, and that its motives are to be questioned, nor its reasons to be dismissed as unworthy of thoughtful consideration.

The following letter presents certain inquiries that are uppermost in the minds of persons who have been studying the tax issues now before the voters. The questions asked have been given importance by frequent references made to British Columbia by the Single Tax propagandists in Oregon:

How they tax in British Columbia. The following letter presents certain inquiries that are uppermost in the minds of persons who have been studying the tax issues now before the voters.

It has often been said that there is now very little difference between the Republican party and the Democratic party, either in character or in purpose. If that should be so, it is something not to be deplored, but to be commended for it seems to be a guaranty that in whichever party's hands the Government shall be reposed, there will be careful and conservative direction and fairly honest service.

trust plank, the initiative, minimum wage, woman suffrage, and a few others. The Oregonian can select at least four or five child labor, one day's rest in seven, safety standard for work earners, fair compensation for industrial accidents, the short ballot, stringent laws against bribery and the like—to which there will be, for there ought to be, no dissent whatever.

They have retorted the progressive movement by dividing the forces of progress. They have joined hands with the radical and seditious element of the population and have fostered the growing resentment against government and law, and have weakened the arm of authority.

Visiting Aunt Della. William Howard Taft, pausing in the affairs of a busy life, spent Sunday in the quiet little Massachusetts village of Millbury, where lives in quiet retirement his favorite aunt, Della.

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property and improvements would be general throughout the state, not localized as in the practice of the Oregon amendment, because of its exemption of all improvements, personality and incomes, and because of the weak wording of the graduated tax provisions.

Examined under the microscope it is seen to consist not only of inanimate particles of saline matter and silicates, but with these are mingled wonderful little creatures which may possibly be alive. Bastian asserts that they are alive, and for this he has been excommunicated by the British Association.

Like other heretics Bastian is pugnacious and he has not consented to be squelched. He has published a book in the face and eyes of the British Association, giving an account of his experiments on the origin of life. The book is in the Portland Public Library, where anybody may obtain it who wishes and find out precisely what the rising storm in the scientific world is all about.

Murderer Sneed, product of a widespread American disregard of human life, has claimed the life of another victim, after having been permitted his freedom following the inability of a Texas jury to convict him for the murder of a man who made derogatory remarks about Mrs. Sneed. This second victim is the son of the first, one Boyce. It appears that the son eloped with Mrs. Sneed and the father afterwards made uncomplimentary remarks concerning her character, remarks that while not excusable nevertheless would appear to have been well founded.

No doubt the elder Boyce was perturbed at the conduct of his son in eloping with a married woman. As the father of the male half of the eloping duo it was quite natural that he should lay much of the blame upon the woman. Had his paternal chagrin asserted itself in the murder of the woman's husband his act would have been entirely as justifiable as the course adopted by the husband.

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Views of Opposition to Execution Presented by Prison Chaplain. SALEM, Or., Sept. 9.—(To the Editor.)—In an editorial in the Oregonian recently you rap the Oregon Messenger and many others of this state whom you call "sentimentalists" who cry out against "retrogressive justice."

I presume most of your accused are who are ashamed of the sentiment that actuates them in seeking to abolish capital punishment, but it seems strange to be accused of following a feeling more than reason by those who live in glass houses. I have seen a prominent attorney, in a rage, leave his pew in a church and walk out because of his sentiment in the matter.

But why call names any way? Sentiment is a good thing; life without it is cold and barren. Reason is a good thing; without it we would all be as senseless as the solution of such problems as the one before us. We will have to get our heads and hearts into this problem if we ever solve it; the sooner the better. Since I have been uplisting the state discussing this problem with all sorts of people, I should like very much to give you and your readers that is hardly fair for the Oregonian to call all of us who believe in the abolition of capital punishment "sentimentalists."

I am sure I concur with the Oregon Messenger in that the most common sentiment in our state is that of revenge. Since I have been uplisting the state discussing this problem with all sorts of people, I should like very much to give you and your readers that is hardly fair for the Oregonian to call all of us who believe in the abolition of capital punishment "sentimentalists."

No, the single taxer wants to reduce the prices on the things he sells and send the farmer back to the hard-scrabble days of 1894-96, with 50 cents a bushel of wheat, and a grow larger instead of being paid off.

Luckily the farmer sees through the scheme. I believe they will vote solidly for the better, and I believe that the just as the thinking city wage-earner will do who realizes the hollowness and insincerity of the argument thrown out as a bait to catch him.

SEEKING PUBLICITY NOT WRONG. Officials, Like Merchants, Wise in Recognizing Value, Says Writer. BREVILLE, Or., Sept. 12.—(To the Editor.)—The Oregonian has been publishing a series of articles on the proposed new franchise holding corporations.

Let the forces of law and order unite in one common cause against the links of iniquity which curse our land. Let us urge the Governor to carry out, and instead of cheapening and belittling our Governor's motive, help us to hold up his hands in this battle for civic righteousness.

There is another sentiment which I meet most everywhere I go. It is the righteous indignation of the people against all of us who are called murderers. There is and ought to be in every human breast a feeling of abhorrence for willful murder. It is the right indignation of the people against all of us who are called murderers.

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